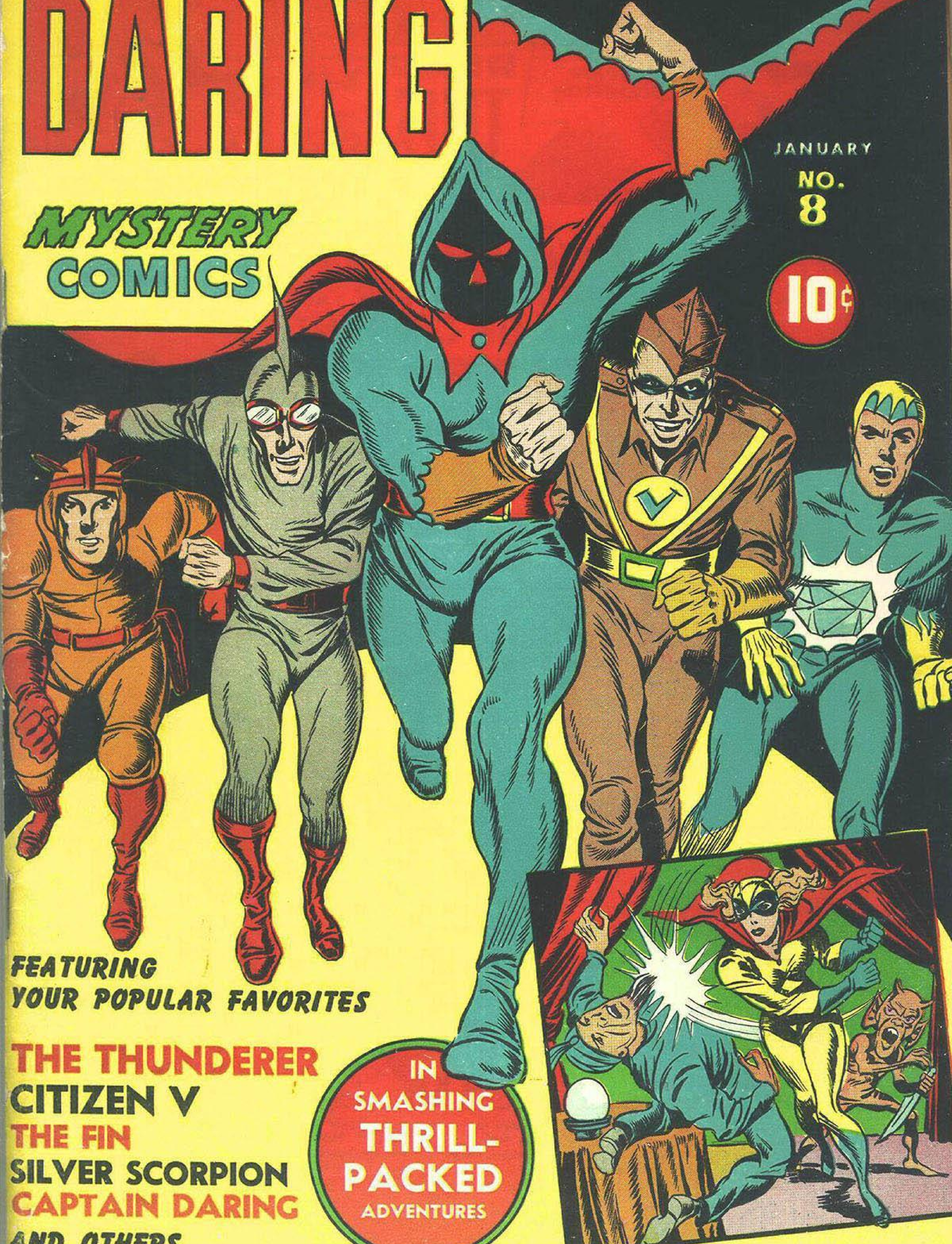
# DARING

# MYSTERY COMICS

JANUARY

NO. 8

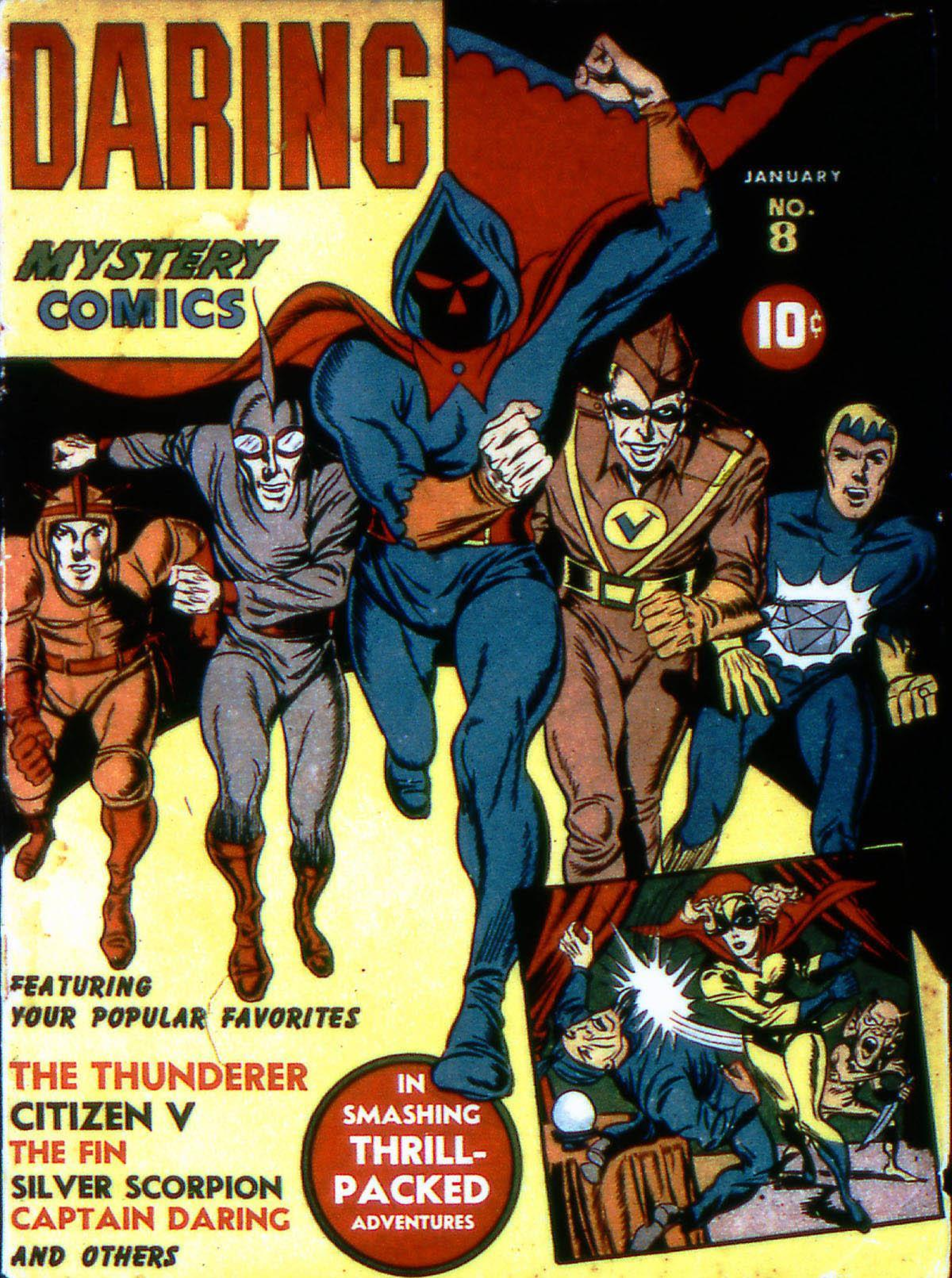
10¢



**FEATURING YOUR POPULAR FAVORITES**

**THE THUNDERER**
**CITIZEN V**
**THE FIN**
**SILVER SCORPION**
**CAPTAIN DARING**
**AND OTHERS**

IN SMASHING THRILL-PACKED ADVENTURES



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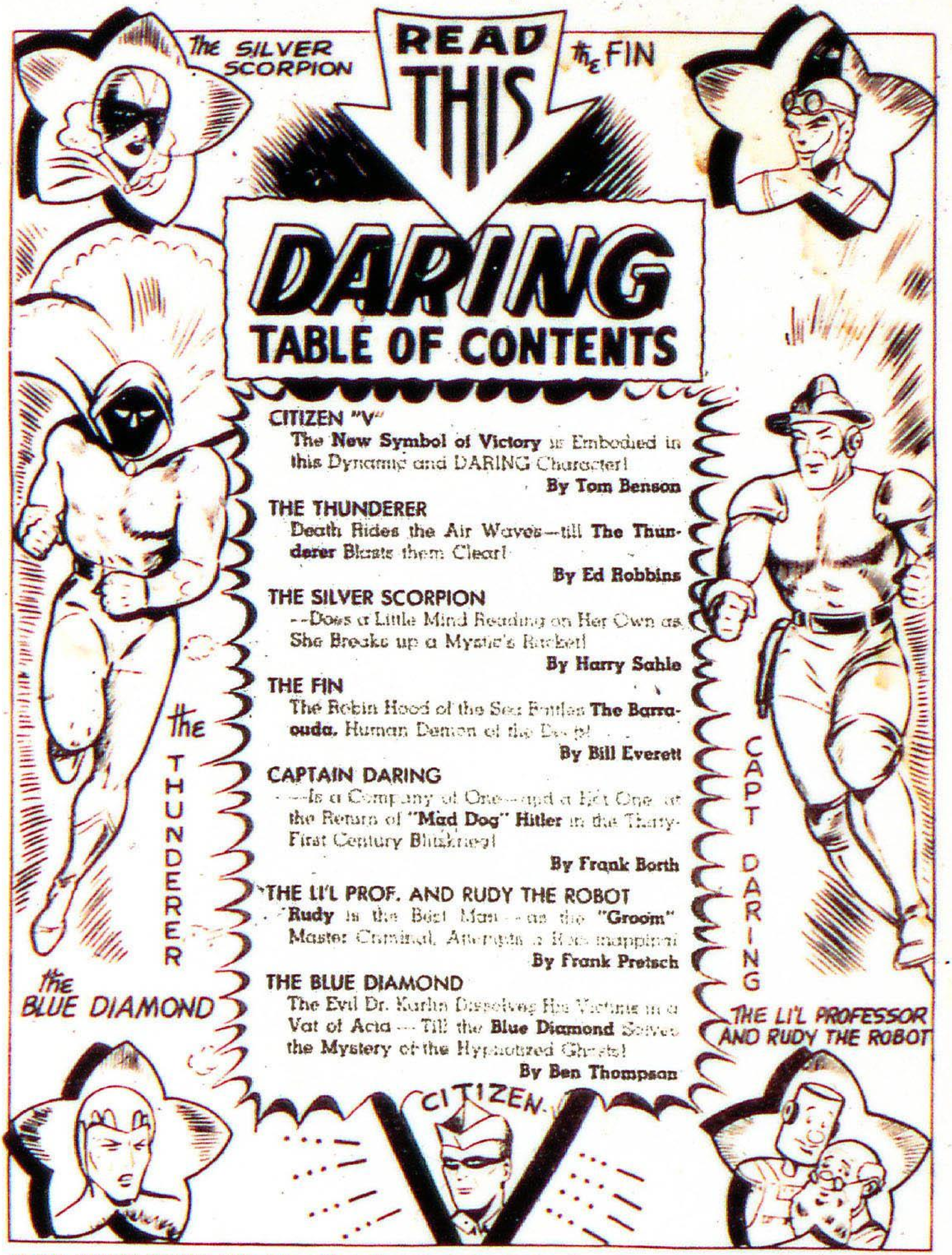

# DARING
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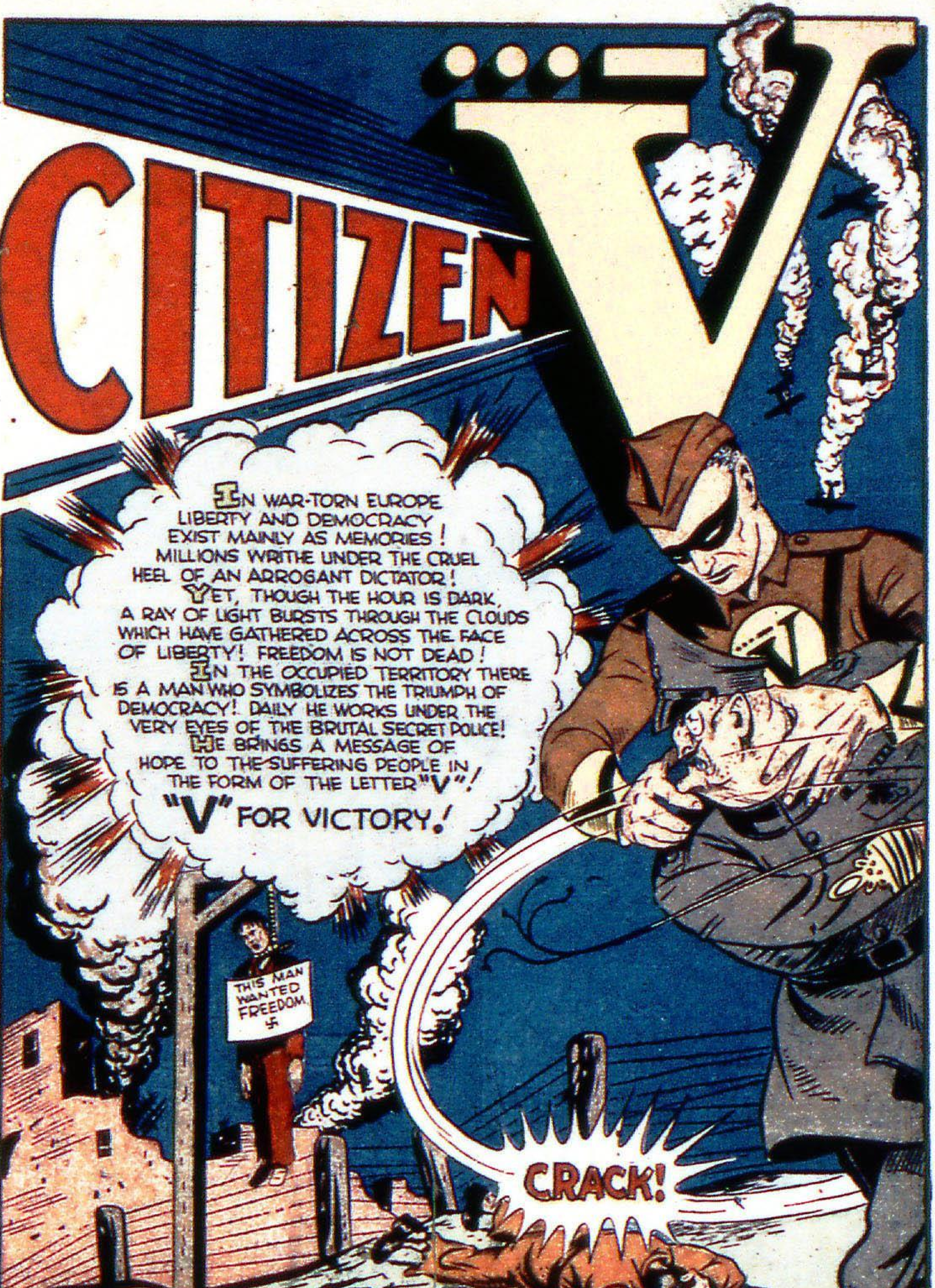
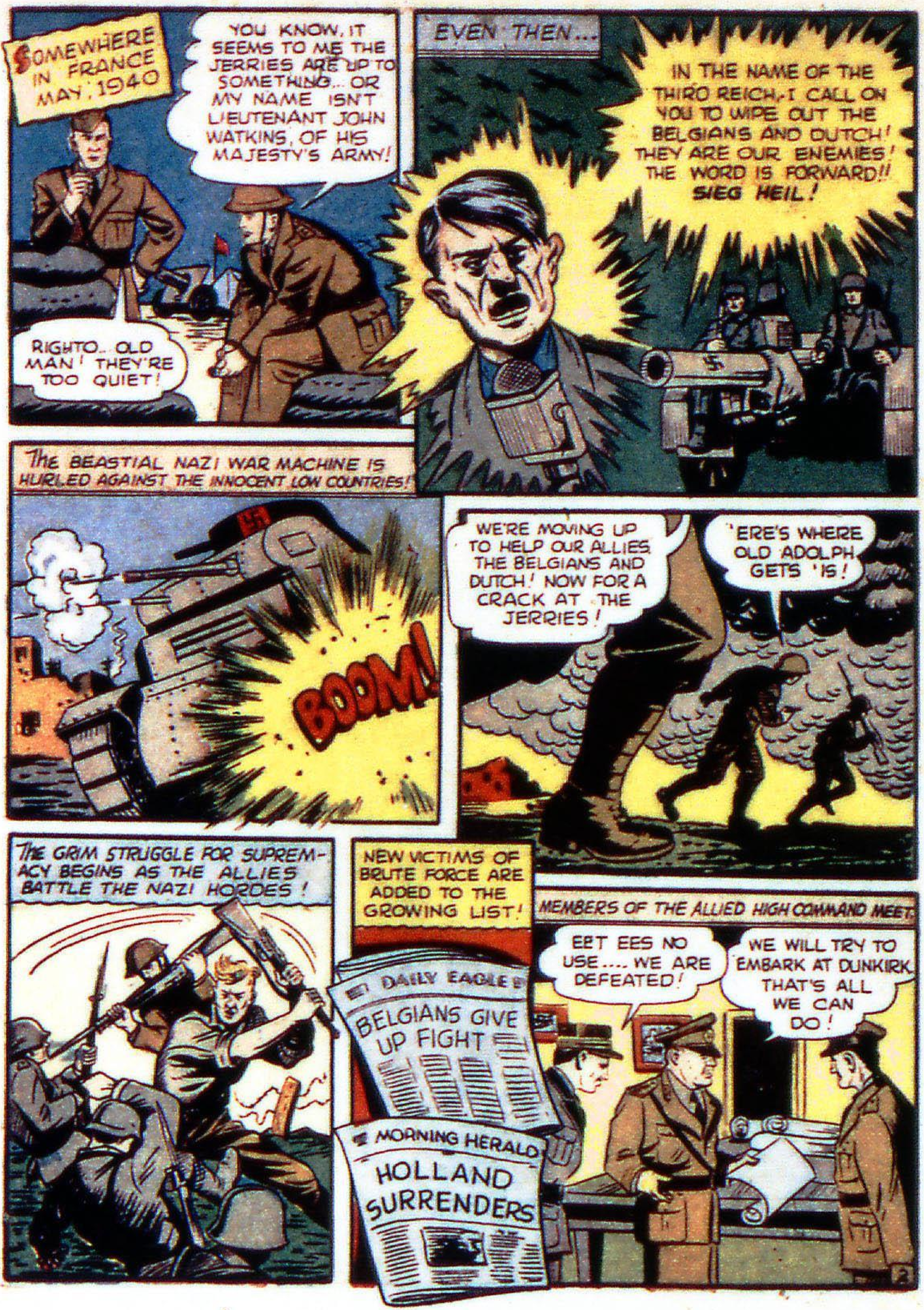
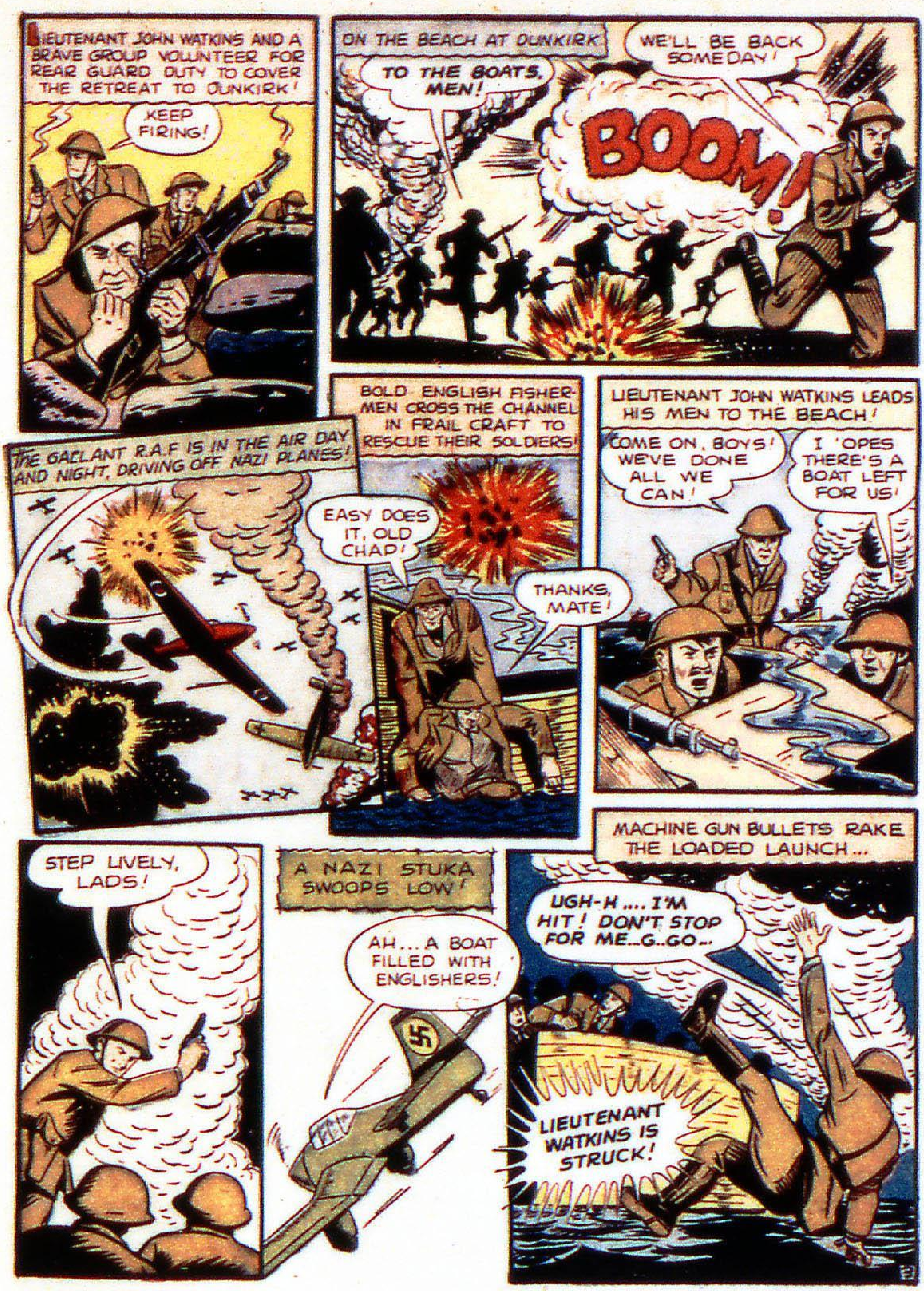
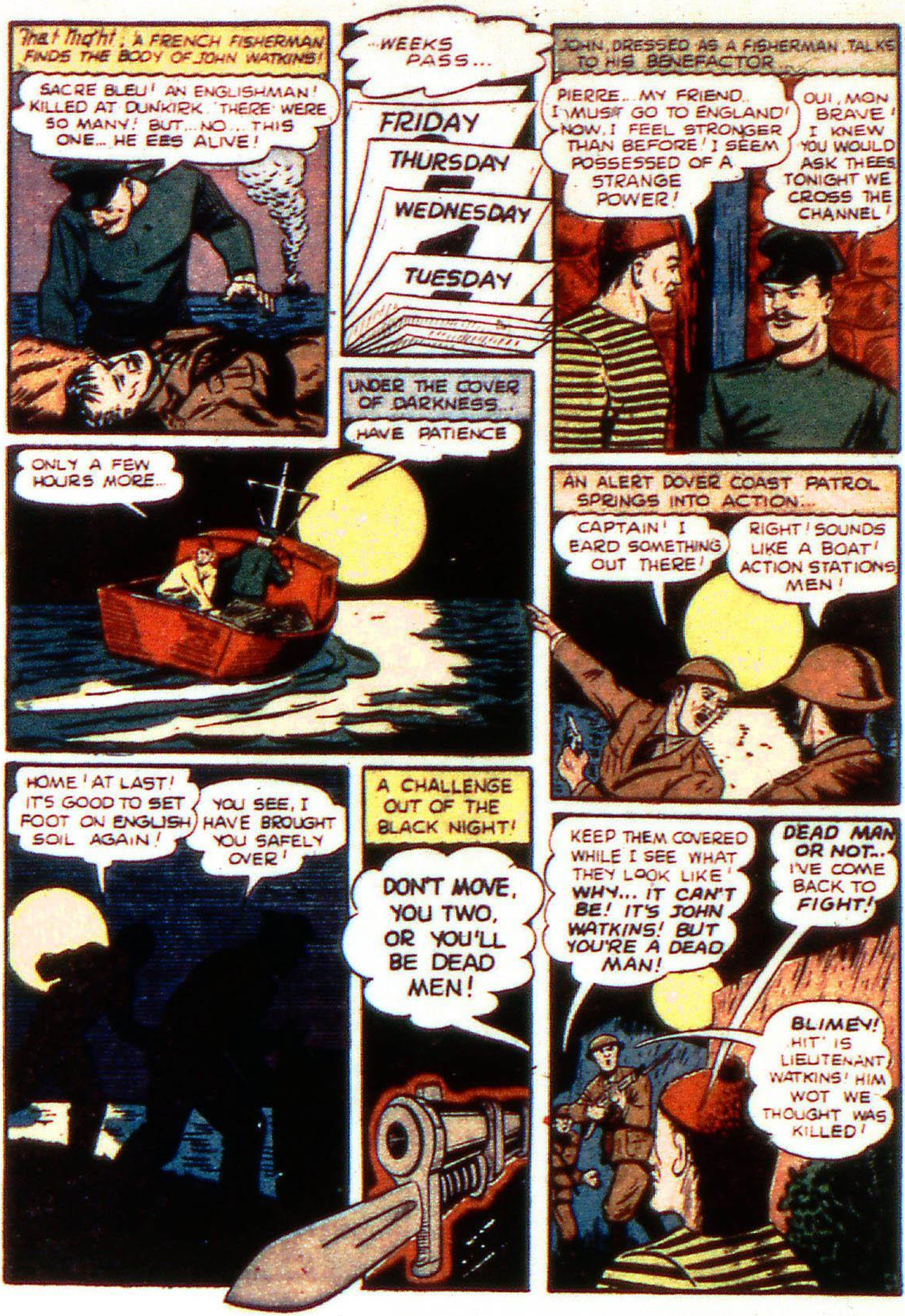
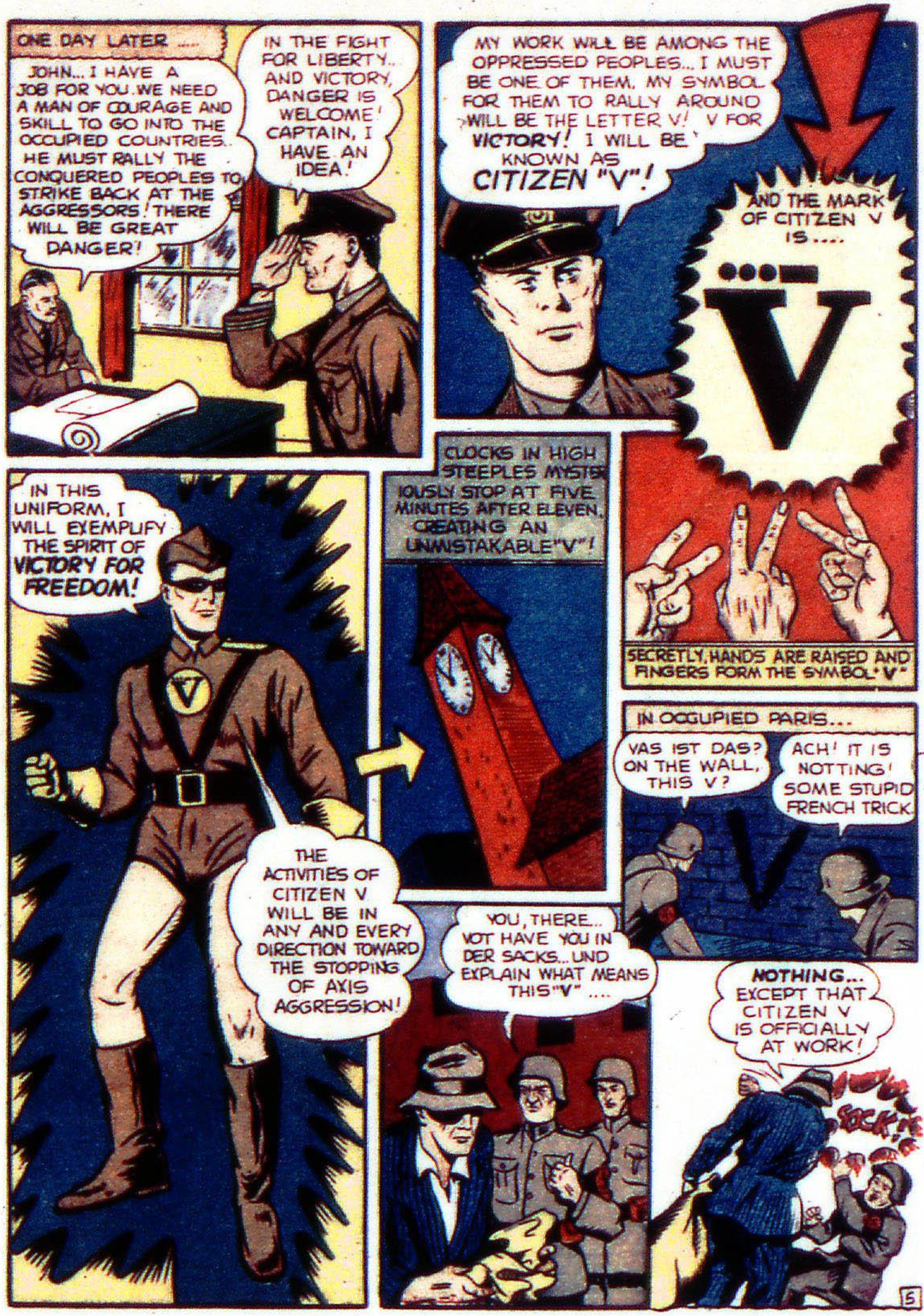
# CITIZEN V

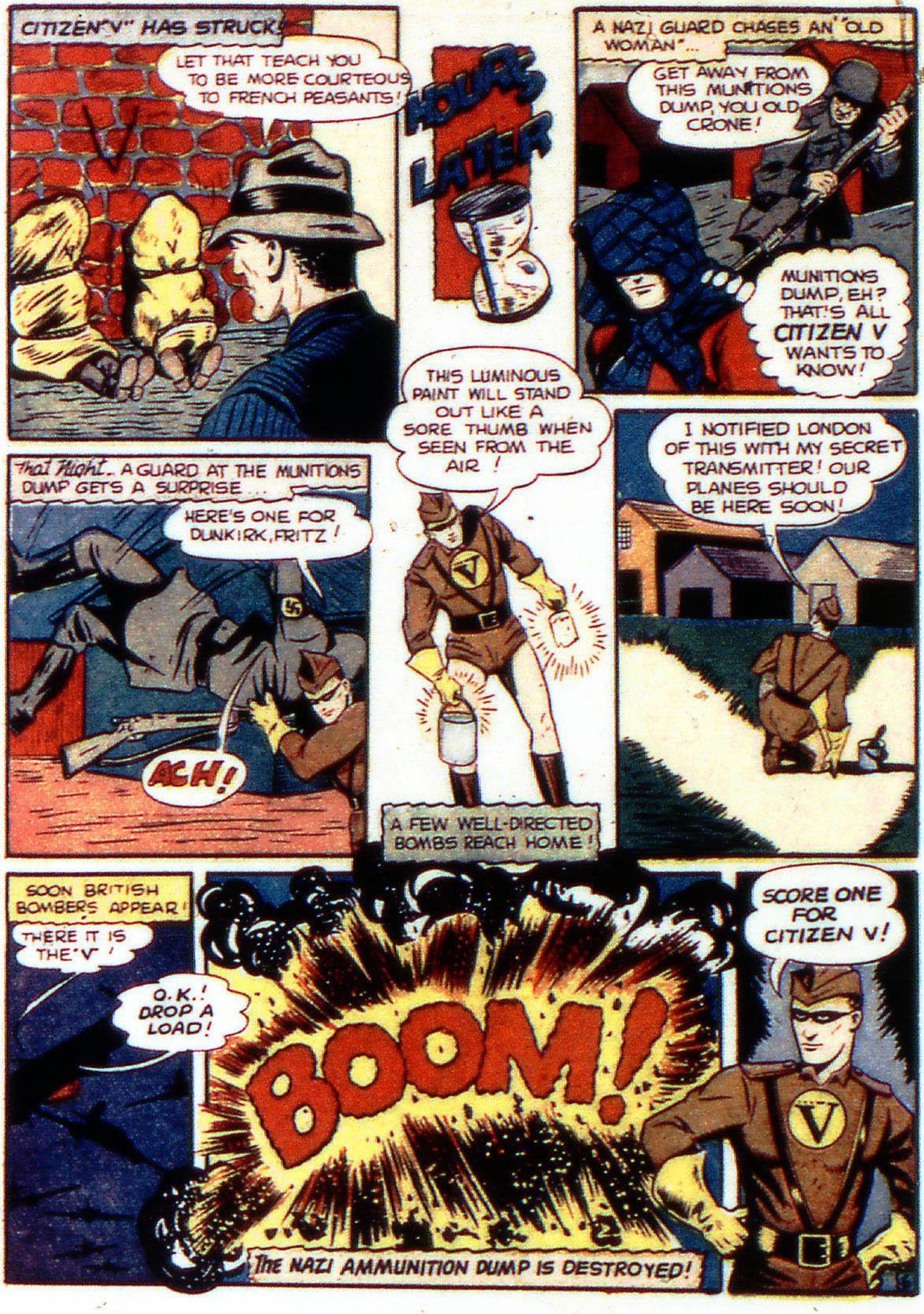

In war-torn Europe liberty and democracy exist mainly as memories! Millions writhe under the cruel heel of an arrogant dictator!
Yet, though the hour is dark, a ray of light bursts through the clouds which have gathered across the face of liberty! Freedom is not dead!
In the occupied territory there is a man who symbolizes the triumph of democracy! Daily he works under the very eyes of the brutal secret police!
He brings a message of hope to the suffering people in the form of the letter "V"!
"V" FOR VICTORY!
V
THIS MAN WANTED FREEDOM.
卐
CRACK!

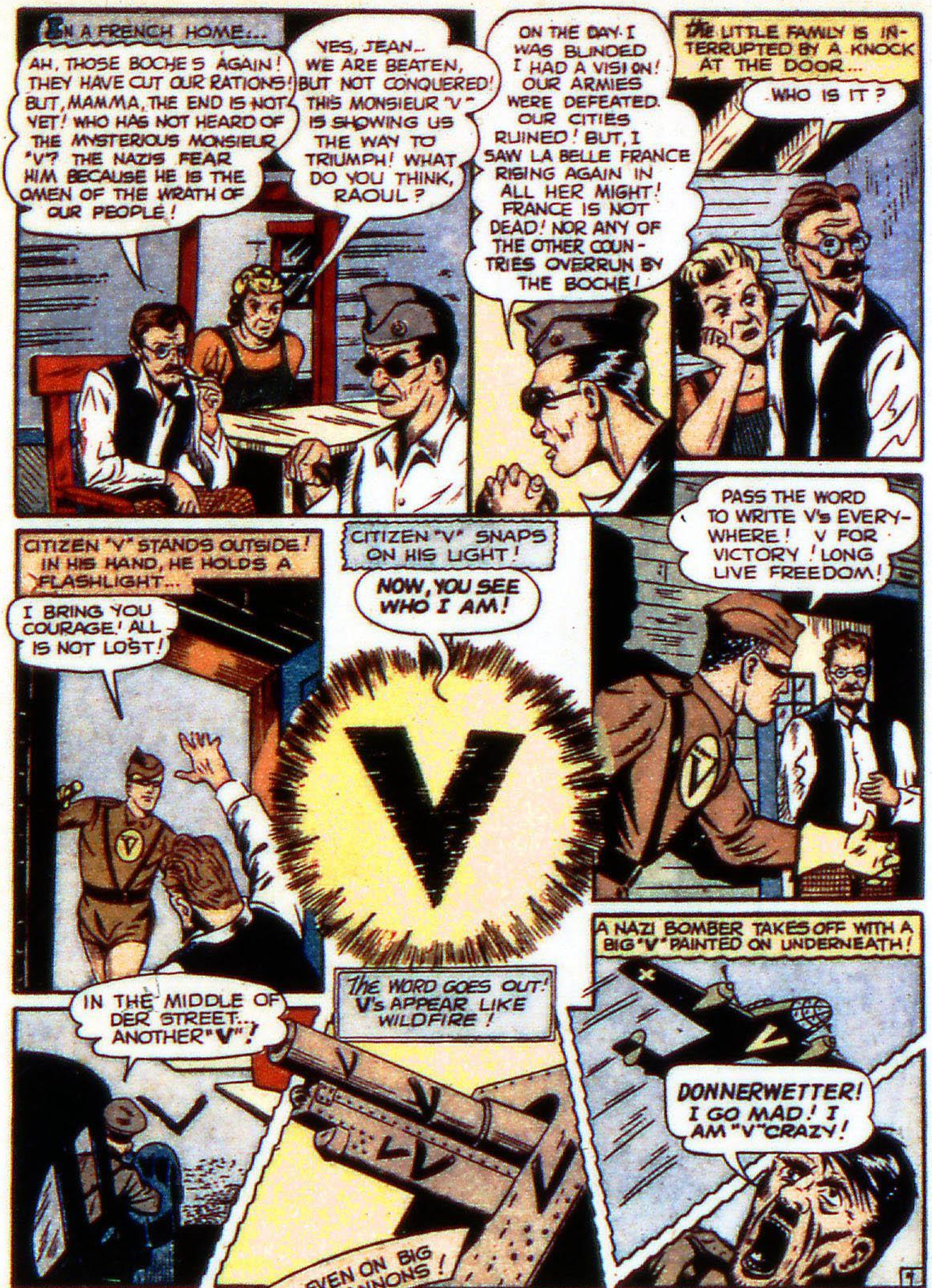

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE MAY, 1940
YOU KNOW, IT SEEMS TO ME THE JERRIES ARE UP TO SOMETHING... OR MY NAME ISN'T LIEUTENANT JOHN WATKINS, OF HIS MAJESTY'S ARMY!
RIGHTO.. OLD MAN! THEY'RE TOO QUIET!
EVEN THEN...
IN THE NAME OF THE THIRD REICH, I CALL ON YOU TO WIPE OUT THE BELGIANS AND DUTCH! THEY ARE OUR ENEMIES! THE WORD IS FORWARD!! SIEG HEIL!
The BEASTIAL NAZI WAR MACHINE IS HURLED AGAINST THE INNOCENT LOW COUNTRIES!
BOOM!
WE'RE MOVING UP TO HELP OUR ALLIES, THE BELGIANS AND DUTCH! NOW FOR A CRACK AT THE JERRIES!
'ERE'S WHERE OLD ADOLPH GETS 'IS!
THE GRIM STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY BEGINS AS THE ALLIES BATTLE THE NAZI HORDES!
NEW VICTIMS OF BRUTE FORCE ARE ADDED TO THE GROWING LIST!
DAILY EAGLE
BELGIANS GIVE UP FIGHT
MORNING HERALD
HOLLAND SURRENDERS
MEMBERS OF THE ALLIED HIGH COMMAND MEET:
EET EES NO USE.... WE ARE DEFEATED!
WE WILL TRY TO EMBARK AT DUNKIRK. THAT'S ALL WE CAN DO!

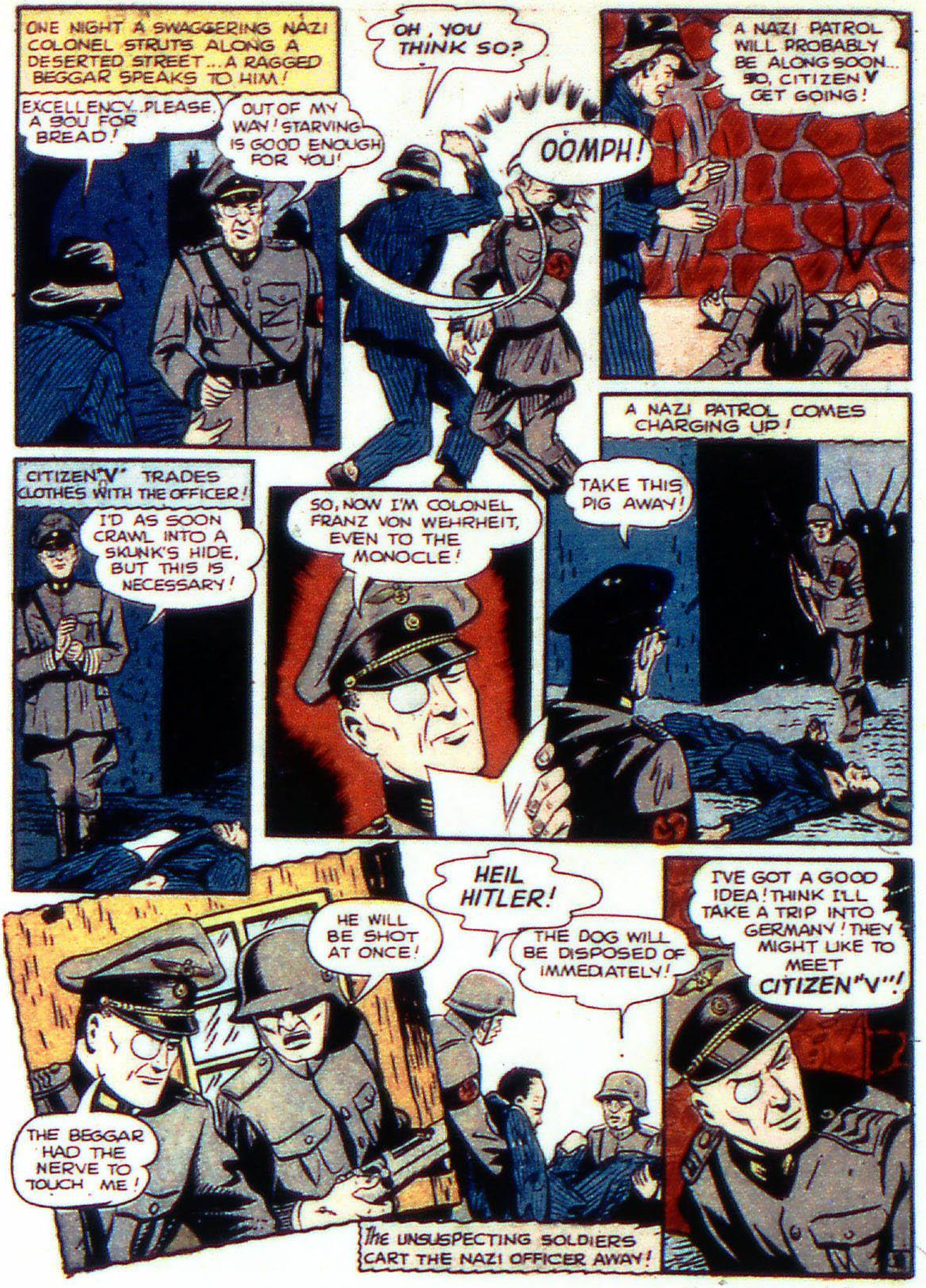

LIEUTENANT JOHN WATKINS AND A BRAVE GROUP VOLUNTEER FOR REAR GUARD DUTY TO COVER THE RETREAT TO DUNKIRK!
KEEP FIRING!
ON THE BEACH AT DUNKIRK
TO THE BOATS, MEN!
WE'LL BE BACK SOMEDAY!
BOOM!
THE GALLANT R.A.F. IS IN THE AIR DAY AND NIGHT, DRIVING OFF NAZI PLANES!
BOLD ENGLISH FISHERMEN CROSS THE CHANNEL IN FRAIL CRAFT TO RESCUE THEIR SOLDIERS!
EASY DOES IT, OLD CHAP!
THANKS, MATE!
LIEUTENANT JOHN WATKINS LEADS HIS MEN TO THE BEACH!
COME ON, BOYS! WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN!
I 'OPES THERE'S A BOAT LEFT FOR US!
STEP LIVELY, LADS!
A NAZI STUKA SWOOPS LOW!
AH... A BOAT FILLED WITH ENGLISHERS!
MACHINE GUN BULLETS RAKE THE LOADED LAUNCH...
UGH-H .... I'M HIT! DON'T STOP FOR ME..G..GO...
LIEUTENANT WATKINS IS STRUCK!

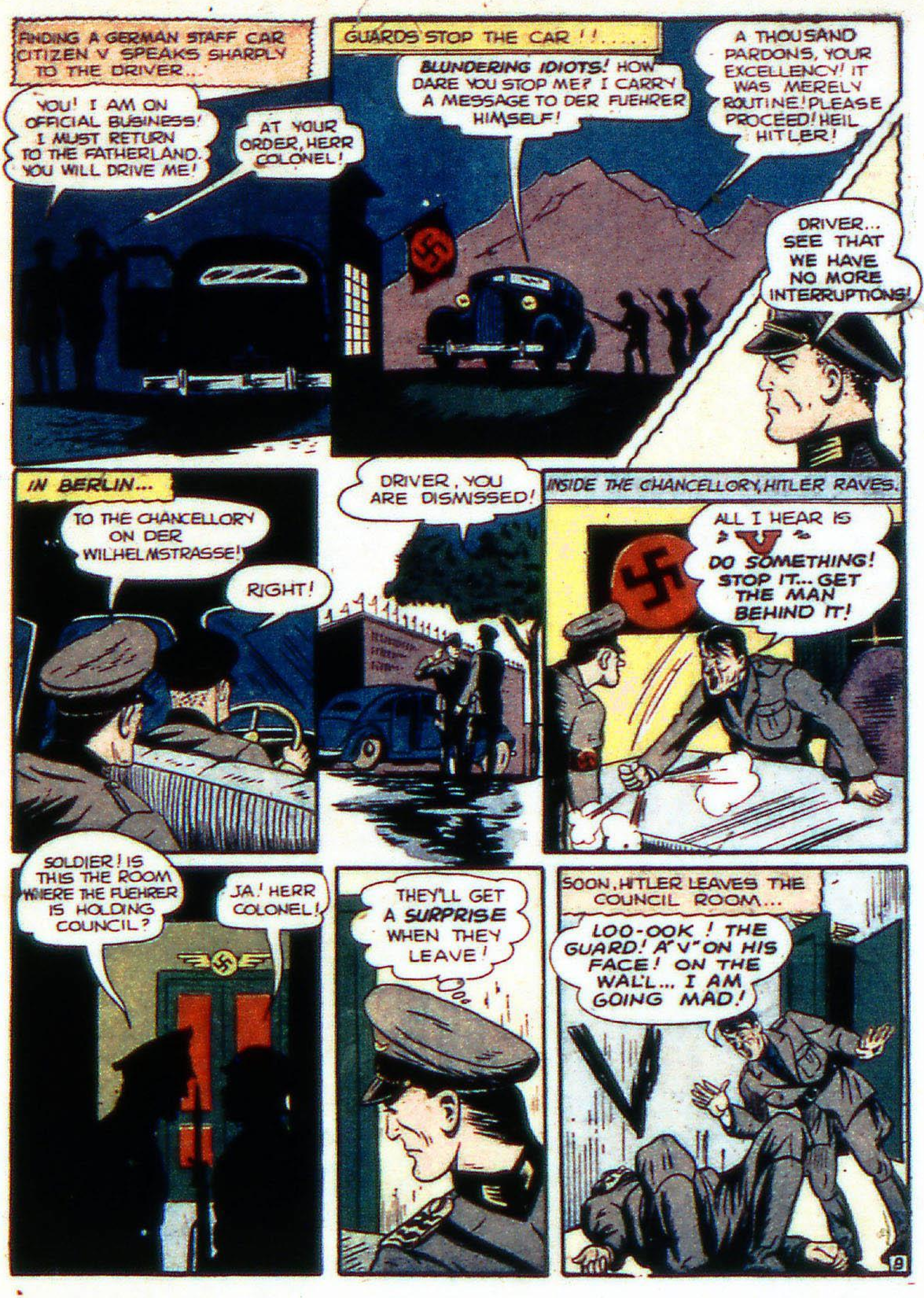

That Night, A FRENCH FISHERMAN FINDS THE BODY OF JOHN WATKINS!
SACRE BLEU! AN ENGLISHMAN! KILLED AT DUNKIRK. THERE WERE SO MANY! BUT... NO... THIS ONE... HE EES ALIVE!
...WEEKS PASS...
FRIDAY
THURSDAY
WEDNESDAY
TUESDAY
JOHN, DRESSED AS A FISHERMAN, TALKS TO HIS BENEFACTOR...
PIERRE... MY FRIEND. I MUST GO TO ENGLAND! NOW, I FEEL STRONGER THAN BEFORE! I SEEM POSSESSED OF A STRANGE POWER!
OUI, MON BRAVE! I KNEW YOU WOULD ASK THEES. TONIGHT WE CROSS THE CHANNEL!
UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS...
ONLY A FEW HOURS MORE...
HAVE PATIENCE
AN ALERT DOVER COAST PATROL SPRINGS INTO ACTION...
CAPTAIN! I EARD SOMETHING OUT THERE!
RIGHT! SOUNDS LIKE A BOAT! ACTION STATIONS, MEN!
HOME! AT LAST! IT'S GOOD TO SET FOOT ON ENGLISH SOIL AGAIN!
YOU SEE, I HAVE BROUGHT YOU SAFELY OVER!
A CHALLENGE OUT OF THE BLACK NIGHT!
DON'T MOVE, YOU TWO, OR YOU'LL BE DEAD MEN!
KEEP THEM COVERED WHILE I SEE WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE! WHY... IT CAN'T BE! IT'S JOHN WATKINS! BUT YOU'RE A DEAD MAN!
DEAD MAN OR NOT... I'VE COME BACK TO FIGHT!
BLIMEY! HIT' IS LIEUTENANT WATKINS! HIM WOT WE THOUGHT WAS KILLED!

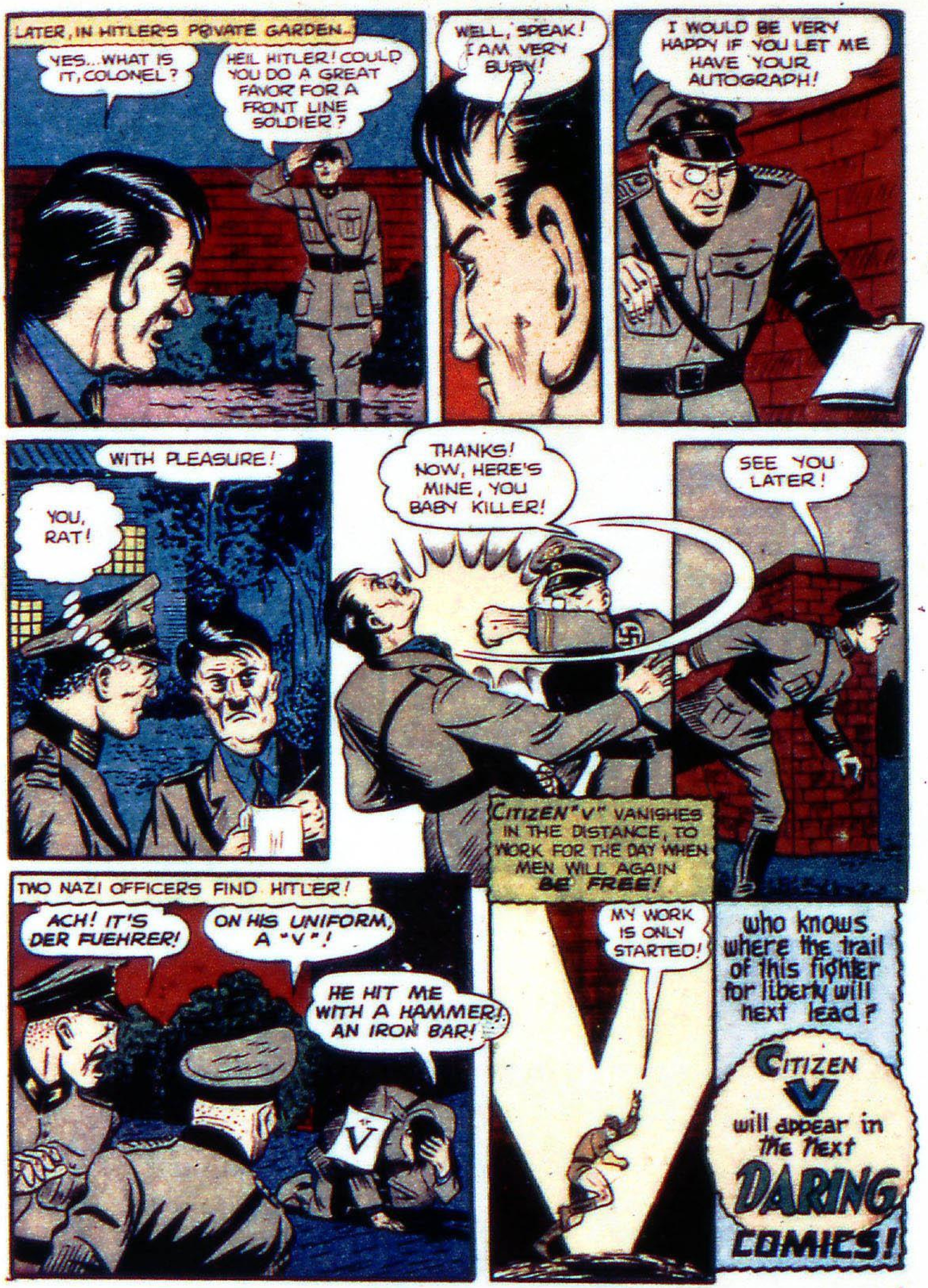

ONE DAY LATER ....
JOHN... I HAVE A JOB FOR YOU. WE NEED A MAN OF COURAGE AND SKILL TO GO INTO THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.. HE MUST RALLY THE CONQUERED PEOPLES TO STRIKE BACK AT THE AGGRESSORS! THERE WILL BE GREAT DANGER!
IN THE FIGHT FOR LIBERTY.. AND VICTORY, DANGER IS WELCOME! CAPTAIN, I HAVE AN IDEA!
MY WORK WILL BE AMONG THE OPPRESSED PEOPLES... I MUST BE ONE OF THEM. MY SYMBOL FOR THEM TO RALLY AROUND WILL BE THE LETTER V! V FOR VICTORY! I WILL BE KNOWN AS CITIZEN "V"!
AND THE MARK OF CITIZEN V IS....
V
IN THIS UNIFORM, I WILL EXEMPLIFY THE SPIRIT OF VICTORY FOR FREEDOM!
THE ACTIVITIES OF CITIZEN V WILL BE IN ANY AND EVERY DIRECTION TOWARD THE STOPPING OF AXIS AGGRESSION!
CLOCKS IN HIGH STEEPLES MYSTERIOUSLY STOP AT FIVE MINUTES AFTER ELEVEN, CREATING AN UNMISTAKABLE "V"!
SECRETLY, HANDS ARE RAISED AND FINGERS FORM THE SYMBOL "V"
IN OCCUPIED PARIS...
VAS IST DAS? ON THE WALL, THIS V?
ACH! IT IS NOTTING! SOME STUPID FRENCH TRICK.
YOU, THERE.. VOT HAVE YOU IN DER SACKS... UND EXPLAIN WHAT MEANS THIS "V" ....
NOTHING... EXCEPT THAT CITIZEN V IS OFFICIALLY AT WORK!
SOCK!

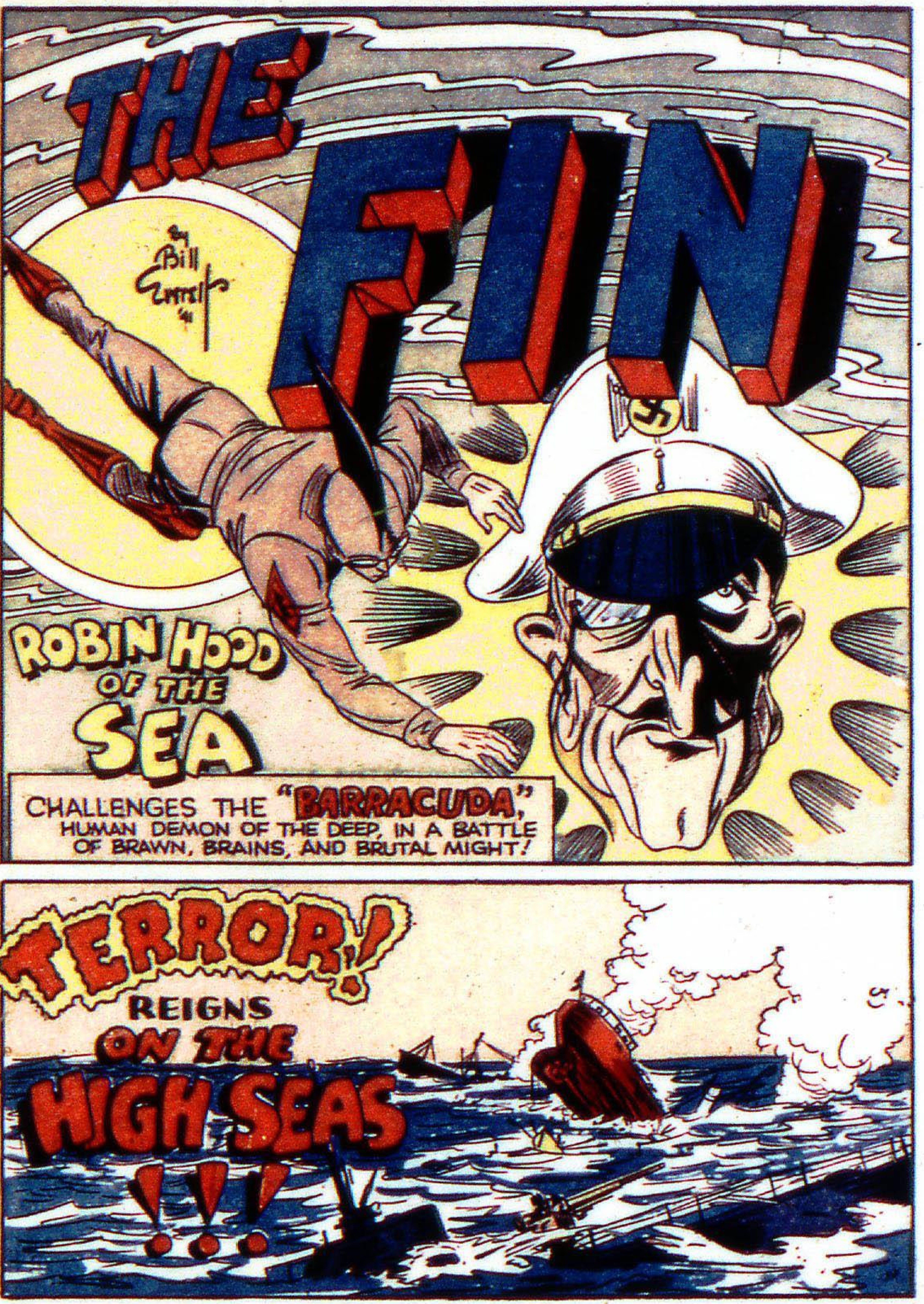

CITIZEN "V" HAS STRUCK!
LET THAT TEACH YOU TO BE MORE COURTEOUS TO FRENCH PEASANTS!
HOURS LATER
A NAZI GUARD CHASES AN "OLD WOMAN"...
GET AWAY FROM THIS MUNITIONS DUMP, YOU OLD CRONE!
MUNITIONS DUMP, EH? THAT'S ALL CITIZEN V WANTS TO KNOW!
That Night... A GUARD AT THE MUNITIONS DUMP GETS A SURPRISE...
HERE'S ONE FOR DUNKIRK, FRITZ!
ACH!
THIS LUMINOUS PAINT WILL STAND OUT LIKE A SORE THUMB WHEN SEEN FROM THE AIR!
A FEW WELL-DIRECTED BOMBS REACH HOME!
I NOTIFIED LONDON OF THIS WITH MY SECRET TRANSMITTER! OUR PLANES SHOULD BE HERE SOON!
SOON BRITISH BOMBERS APPEAR!
THERE IT IS THE "V"!
O.K.! DROP A LOAD!
BOOM!
SCORE ONE FOR CITIZEN V!
THE NAZI AMMUNITION DUMP IS DESTROYED!

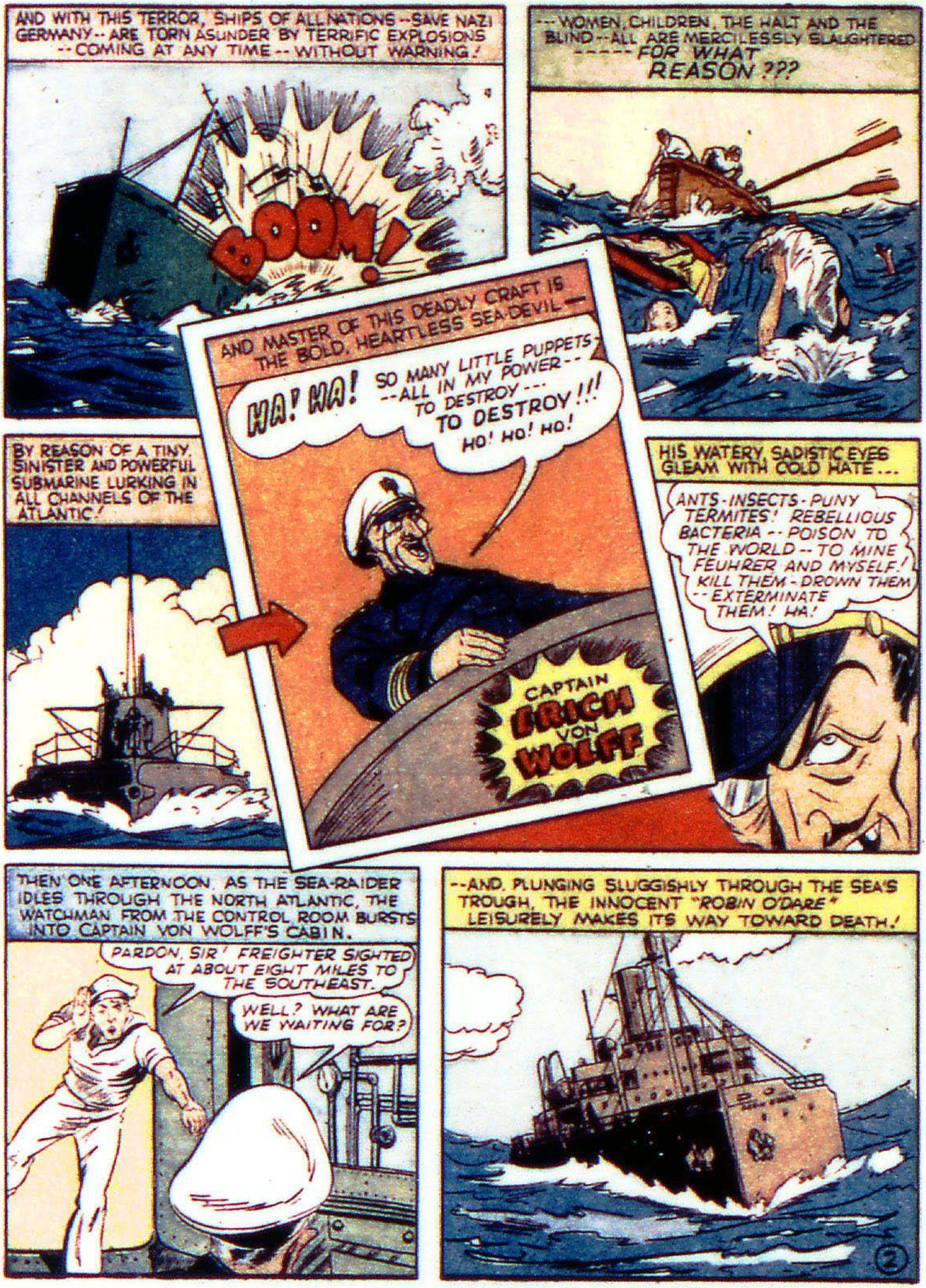

IN A FRENCH HOME...
AH, THOSE BOCHES AGAIN! THEY HAVE CUT OUR RATIONS! BUT, MAMMA, THE END IS NOT YET! WHO HAS NOT HEARD OF THE MYSTERIOUS MONSIEUR "V"? THE NAZIS FEAR HIM BECAUSE HE IS THE OMEN OF THE WRATH OF OUR PEOPLE!
YES, JEAN... WE ARE BEATEN, BUT NOT CONQUERED! THIS MONSIEUR "V" IS SHOWING US THE WAY TO TRIUMPH! WHAT DO YOU THINK, RAOUL?
ON THE DAY I WAS BLINDED I HAD A VISION! OUR ARMIES WERE DEFEATED. OUR CITIES RUINED! BUT, I SAW LA BELLE FRANCE RISING AGAIN IN ALL HER MIGHT! FRANCE IS NOT DEAD! NOR ANY OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES OVERRUN BY THE BOCHE!
THE LITTLE FAMILY IS INTERRUPTED BY A KNOCK AT THE DOOR...
...WHO IS IT?
CITIZEN "V" STANDS OUTSIDE! IN HIS HAND, HE HOLDS A FLASHLIGHT...
I BRING YOU COURAGE! ALL IS NOT LOST!
CITIZEN "V" SNAPS ON HIS LIGHT!
NOW, YOU SEE WHO I AM!
V
PASS THE WORD TO WRITE V's EVERYWHERE! V FOR VICTORY! LONG LIVE FREEDOM!
V
IN THE MIDDLE OF DER STREET... ANOTHER "V"!
THE WORD GOES OUT! V's APPEAR LIKE WILDFIRE!
EVEN ON BIG CANNONS!
A NAZI BOMBER TAKES OFF WITH A BIG "V" PAINTED ON UNDERNEATH!
DONNERWETTER! I GO MAD! I AM "V" CRAZY!

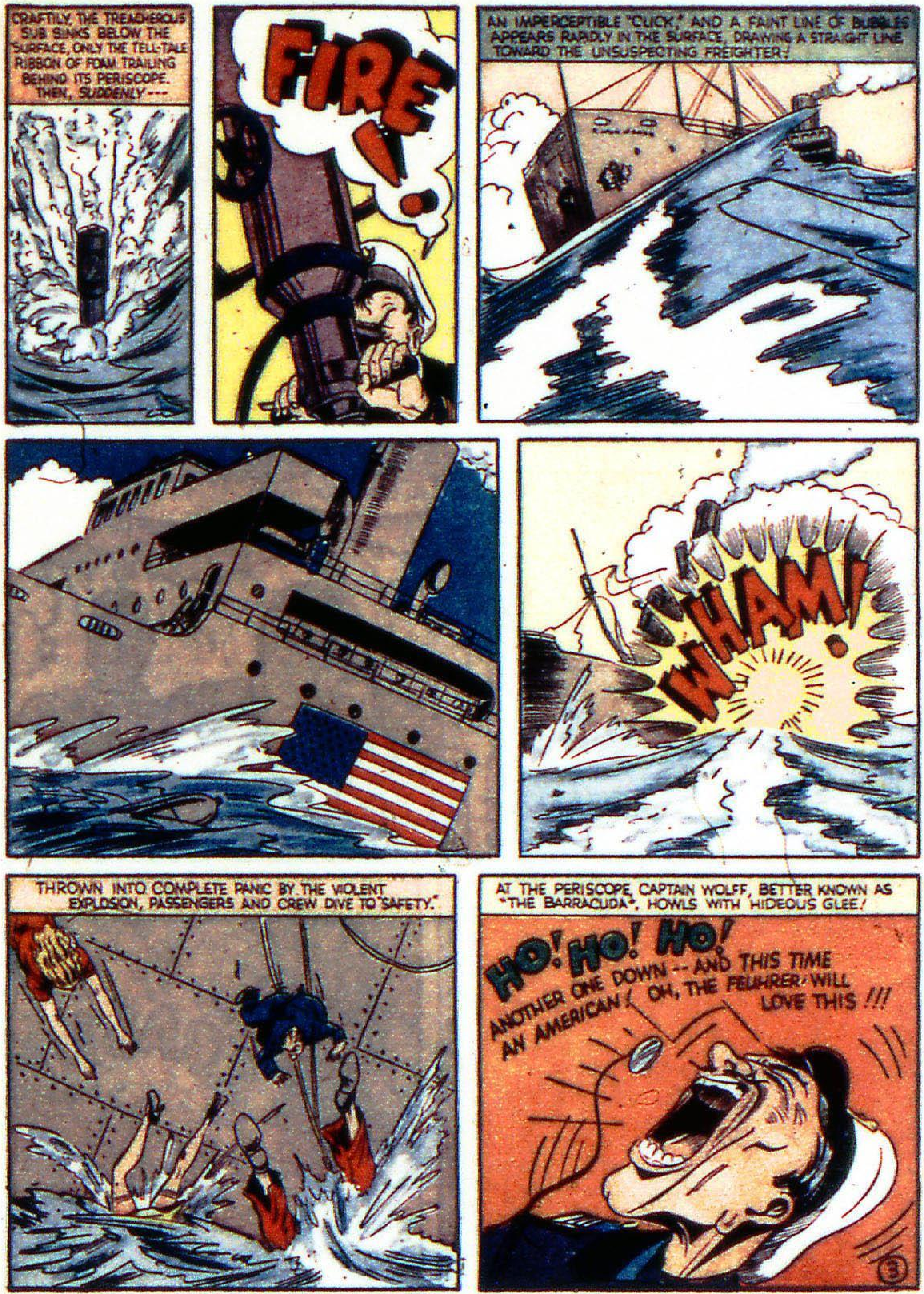

ONE NIGHT A SWAGGERING NAZI COLONEL STRUTS ALONG A DESERTED STREET ... A RAGGED BEGGAR SPEAKS TO HIM!
EXCELLENCY...PLEASE, A SOU FOR BREAD!
OUT OF MY WAY! STARVING IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU!
OH, YOU THINK SO?
OOMPH!
A NAZI PATROL WILL PROBABLY BE ALONG SOON... SO, CITIZEN V GET GOING!
V
CITIZEN "V" TRADES CLOTHES WITH THE OFFICER!
I'D AS SOON CRAWL INTO A SKUNK'S HIDE, BUT THIS IS NECESSARY!
SO, NOW I'M COLONEL FRANZ VON WEHRHEIT, EVEN TO THE MONOCLE!
V
A NAZI PATROL COMES CHARGING UP!
TAKE THIS PIG AWAY!
HE WILL BE SHOT AT ONCE!
THE BEGGAR HAD THE NERVE TO TOUCH ME!
HEIL HITLER!
THE DOG WILL BE DISPOSED OF IMMEDIATELY!
The UNSUSPECTING SOLDIERS CART THE NAZI OFFICER AWAY!
I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA! THINK I'LL TAKE A TRIP INTO GERMANY! THEY MIGHT LIKE TO MEET CITIZEN "V"!


FINDING A GERMAN STAFF CAR CITIZEN V SPEAKS SHARPLY TO THE DRIVER...
YOU! I AM ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS! I MUST RETURN TO THE FATHERLAND. YOU WILL DRIVE ME!
AT YOUR ORDER, HERR COLONEL!
GUARDS STOP THE CAR!!.....
BLUNDERING IDIOTS! HOW DARE YOU STOP ME? I CARRY A MESSAGE TO DER FUEHRER HIMSELF!
A THOUSAND PARDONS, YOUR EXCELLENCY! IT WAS MERELY ROUTINE! PLEASE PROCEED! HEIL HITLER!
DRIVER... SEE THAT WE HAVE NO MORE INTERRUPTIONS!
IN BERLIN...
TO THE CHANCELLORY ON DER WILHELMSTRASSE!
RIGHT!
DRIVER, YOU ARE DISMISSED!
INSIDE THE CHANCELLORY, HITLER RAVES.
ALL I HEAR IS "V" DO SOMETHING! STOP IT... GET THE MAN BEHIND IT!
SOLDIER! IS THIS THE ROOM WHERE THE FUEHRER IS HOLDING COUNCIL?
JA! HERR COLONEL!
THEY'LL GET A SURPRISE WHEN THEY LEAVE!
SOON, HITLER LEAVES THE COUNCIL ROOM...
LOO-OOK! THE GUARD! A "V" ON HIS FACE! ON THE WALL... I AM GOING MAD!
V

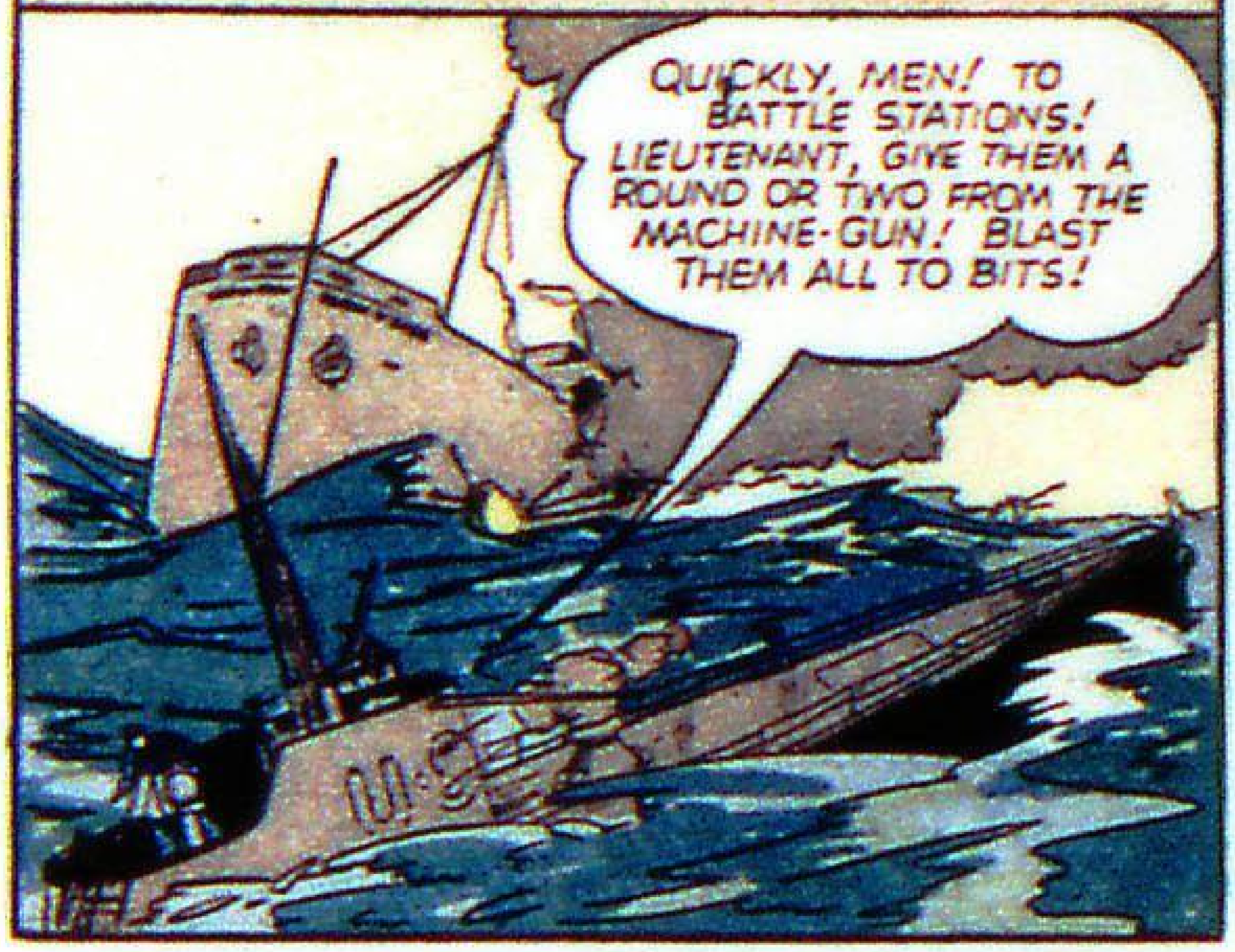

LATER, IN HITLER'S PRIVATE GARDEN...
YES... WHAT IS IT, COLONEL?
HEIL HITLER! COULD YOU DO A GREAT FAVOR FOR A FRONT LINE SOLDIER?
WELL, SPEAK! I AM VERY BUSY!
I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY IF YOU LET ME HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH!
WITH PLEASURE!
YOU, RAT!
THANKS! NOW, HERE'S MINE, YOU BABY KILLER!
SEE YOU LATER!
CITIZEN "V" VANISHES IN THE DISTANCE, TO WORK FOR THE DAY WHEN MEN WILL AGAIN BE FREE!
TWO NAZI OFFICERS FIND HITLER!
ACH! IT'S DER FUEHRER!
ON HIS UNIFORM, A "V"!
HE HIT ME WITH A HAMMER! AN IRON BAR!
V
MY WORK IS ONLY STARTED!
who knows where the trail of this fighter for liberty will next lead?
CITIZEN V will appear in the next DARING COMICS!


THE FIN
By Bill Everett '41
ROBIN HOOD OF THE SEA
CHALLENGES THE "BARRACUDA", HUMAN DEMON OF THE DEEP, IN A BATTLE OF BRAWN, BRAINS, AND BRUTAL MIGHT!
TERROR! REIGNS ON THE HIGH SEAS !!!

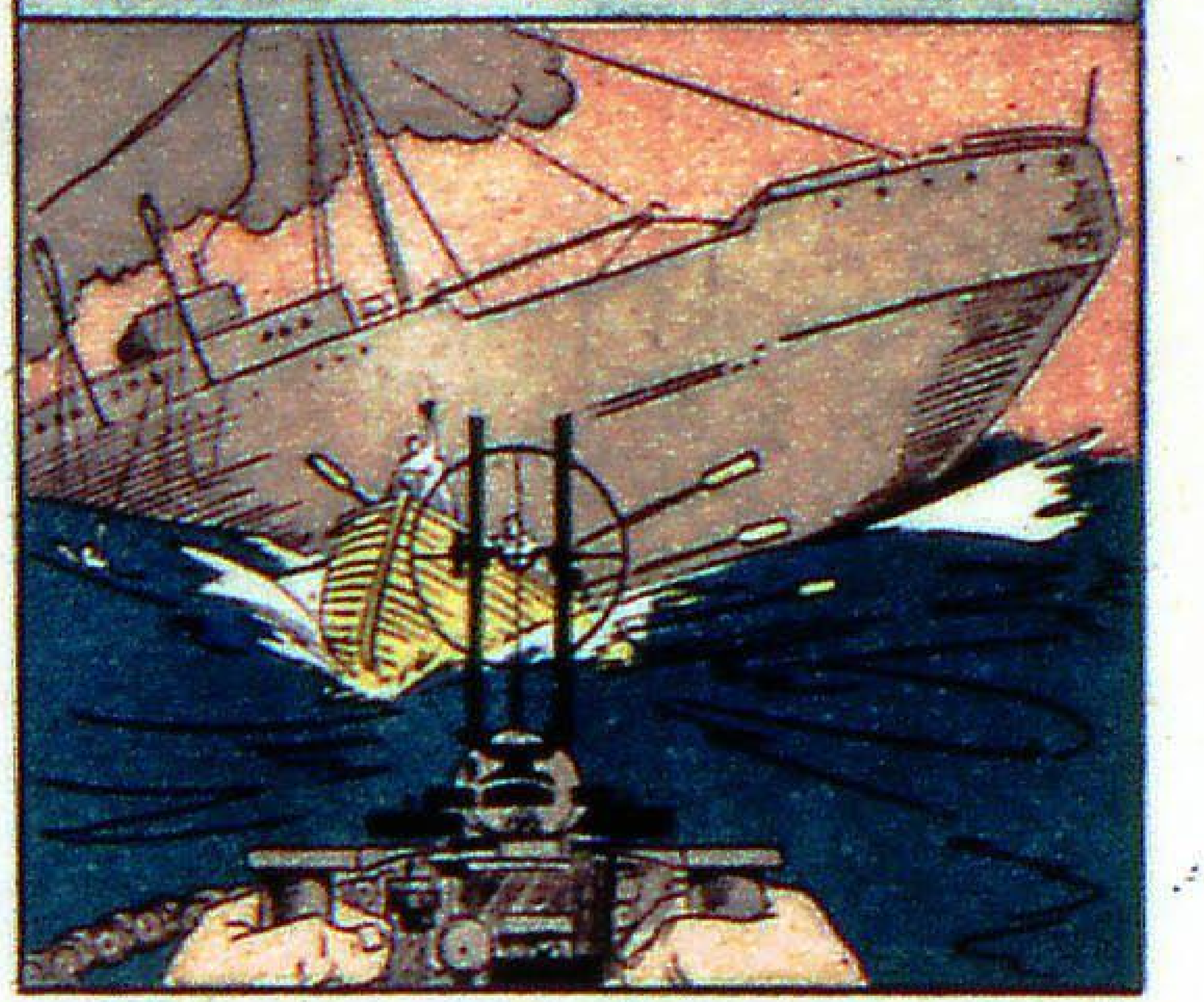

AND WITH THIS TERROR, SHIPS OF ALL NATIONS -- SAVE NAZI GERMANY -- ARE TORN ASUNDER BY TERRIFIC EXPLOSIONS -- COMING AT ANY TIME -- WITHOUT WARNING!
BOOM!
-- WOMEN, CHILDREN, THE HALT AND THE BLIND -- ALL ARE MERCILESSLY SLAUGHTERED ------ FOR WHAT REASON???
AND MASTER OF THIS DEADLY CRAFT IS THE BOLD, HEARTLESS SEA-DEVIL --
HA! HA! SO MANY LITTLE PUPPETS -- ALL IN MY POWER -- TO DESTROY --- TO DESTROY!!! HO! HO! HO!
CAPTAIN ERICH VON WOLFF
BY REASON OF A TINY, SINISTER AND POWERFUL SUBMARINE LURKING IN ALL CHANNELS OF THE ATLANTIC!
HIS WATERY, SADISTIC EYES GLEAM WITH COLD HATE ...
ANTS - INSECTS - PUNY TERMITES! REBELLIOUS BACTERIA -- POISON TO THE WORLD -- TO MINE FEUHRER AND MYSELF! KILL THEM - DROWN THEM -- EXTERMINATE THEM! HA!
THEN ONE AFTERNOON, AS THE SEA-RAIDER IDLES THROUGH THE NORTH ATLANTIC, THE WATCHMAN FROM THE CONTROL ROOM BURSTS INTO CAPTAIN VON WOLFF'S CABIN.
PARDON, SIR! FREIGHTER SIGHTED AT ABOUT EIGHT MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST.
WELL? WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?
-- AND, PLUNGING SLUGGISHLY THROUGH THE SEA'S TROUGH, THE INNOCENT "ROBIN O'DARE" LEISURELY MAKES ITS WAY TOWARD DEATH!
2


CRAFTILY, THE TREACHEROUS SUB SINKS BELOW THE SURFACE, ONLY THE TELL-TALE RIBBON OF FOAM TRAILING BEHIND ITS PERISCOPE. THEN, SUDDENLY---
FIRE!
AN IMPERCEPTIBLE "CLICK," AND A FAINT LINE OF BUBBLES APPEARS RAPIDLY IN THE SURFACE, DRAWING A STRAIGHT LINE TOWARD THE UNSUSPECTING FREIGHTER!
WHAM!
THROWN INTO COMPLETE PANIC BY THE VIOLENT EXPLOSION, PASSENGERS AND CREW DIVE TO SAFETY.
AT THE PERISCOPE, CAPTAIN WOLFF, BETTER KNOWN AS "THE BARRACUDA", HOWLS WITH HIDEOUS GLEE!
HO! HO! HO!
ANOTHER ONE DOWN -- AND THIS TIME AN AMERICAN! OH, THE FEUHRER WILL LOVE THIS !!!

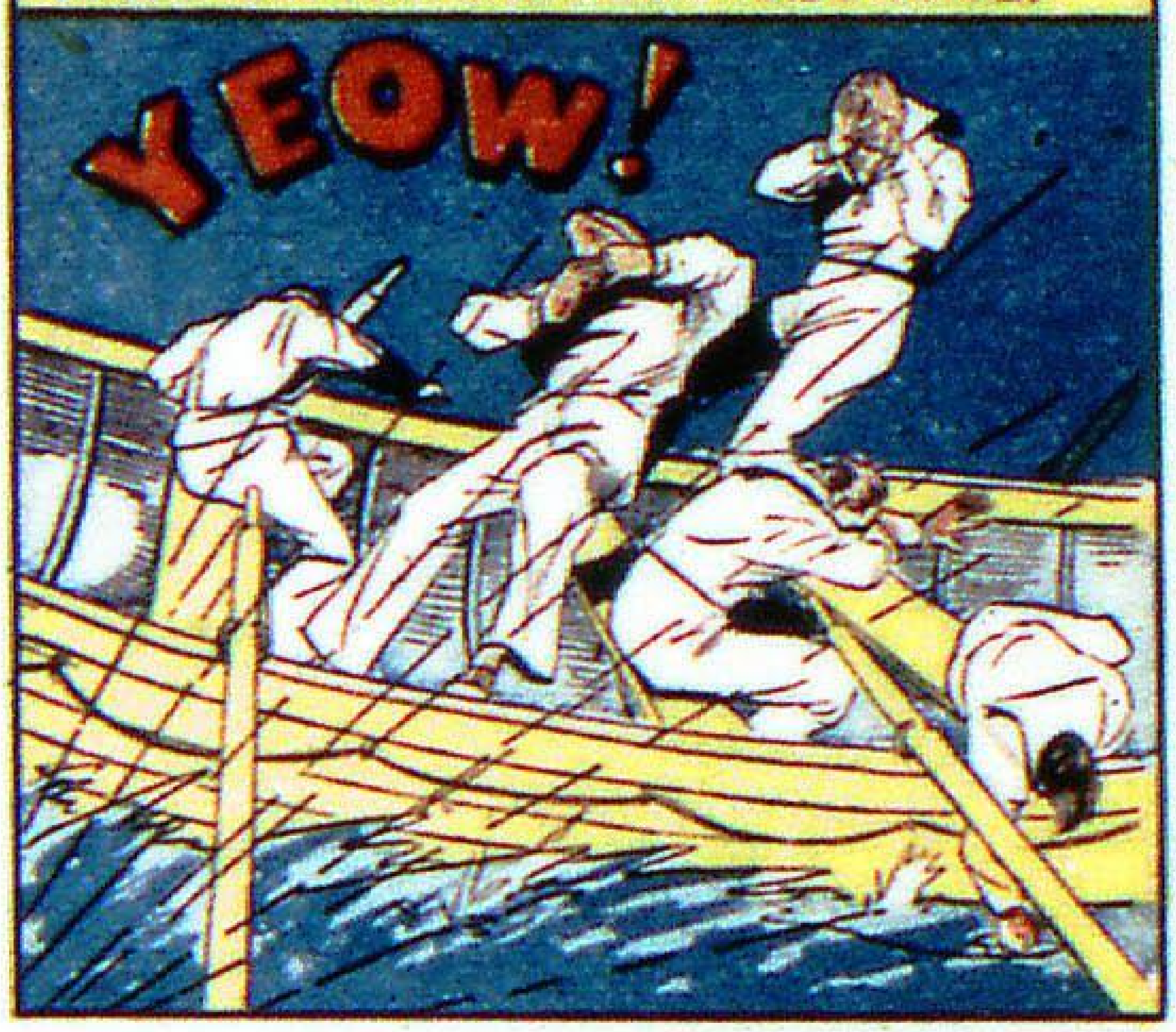
GREAT MASSES OF OILY SMOKE POUR INTO THE SKY, AS THE PRIVATEERING U-BOAT SILENTLY BREAKS THE SURFACE. THE *BARRACUDA* CLIMBS TO THE CONNING-TOWER.

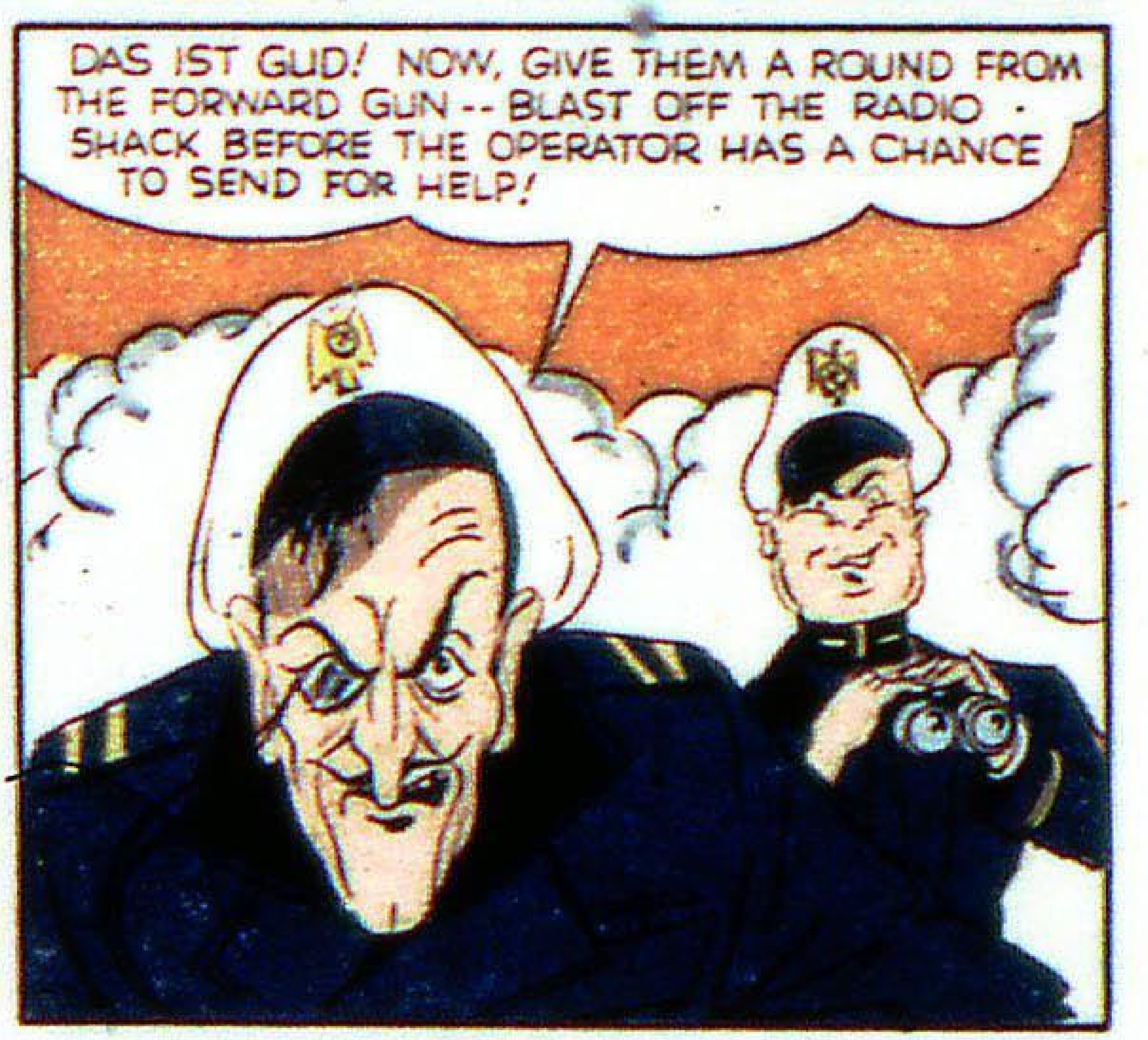

QUICKLY, MEN! TO BATTLE STATIONS! LIEUTENANT, GIVE THEM A ROUND OR TWO FROM THE MACHINE-GUN! BLAST THEM ALL TO BITS!

THE LIEUTENANT DRAWS AN ACCURATE BEAD ON THE FIRST LIFEBOAT TO APPROACH THE SUB IN SURRENDER.

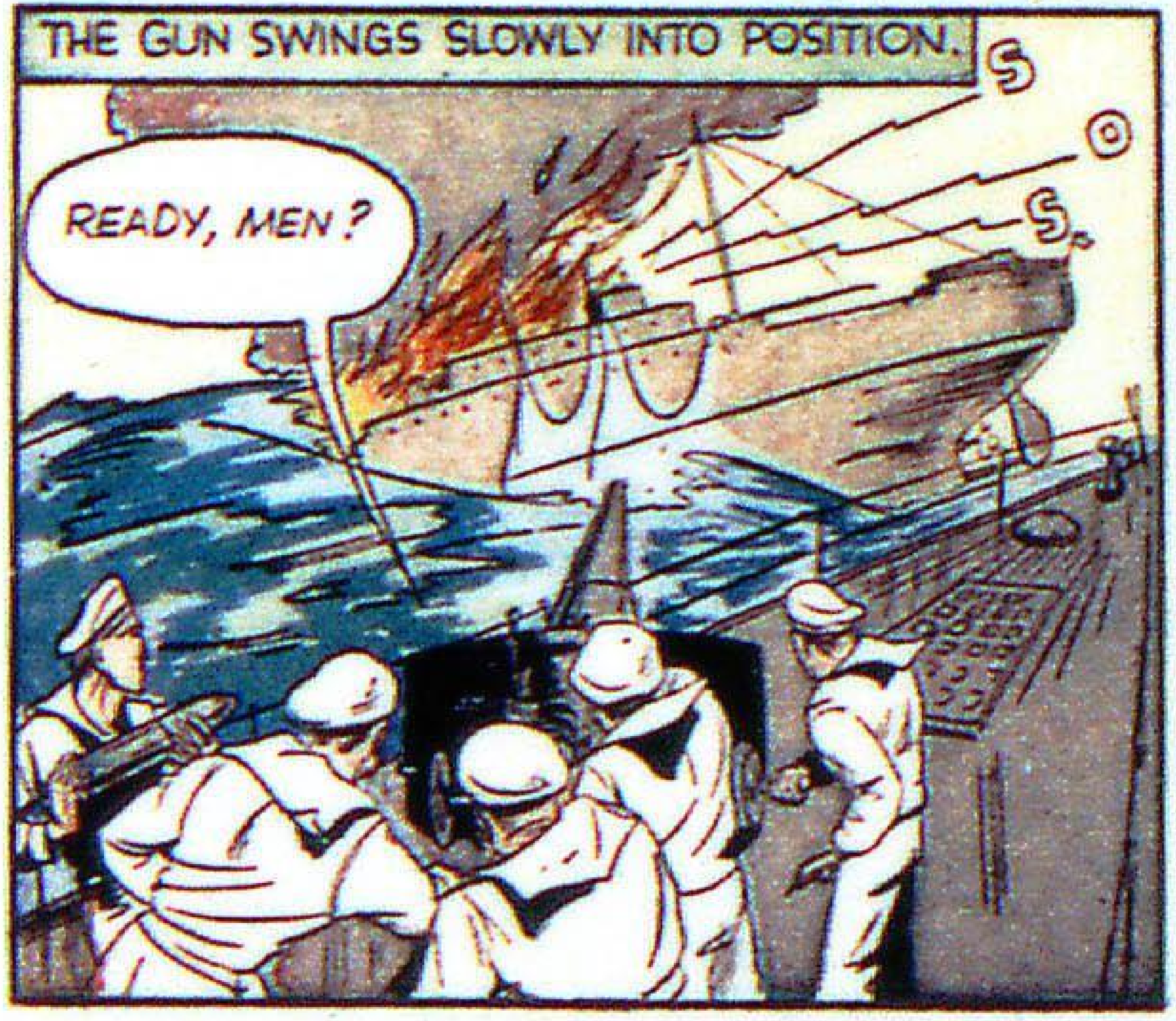


AND A DEADLY STREAM OF .50-CALIBRE BULLETS SLICES THROUGH THE CREW LIKE A KNIFE.

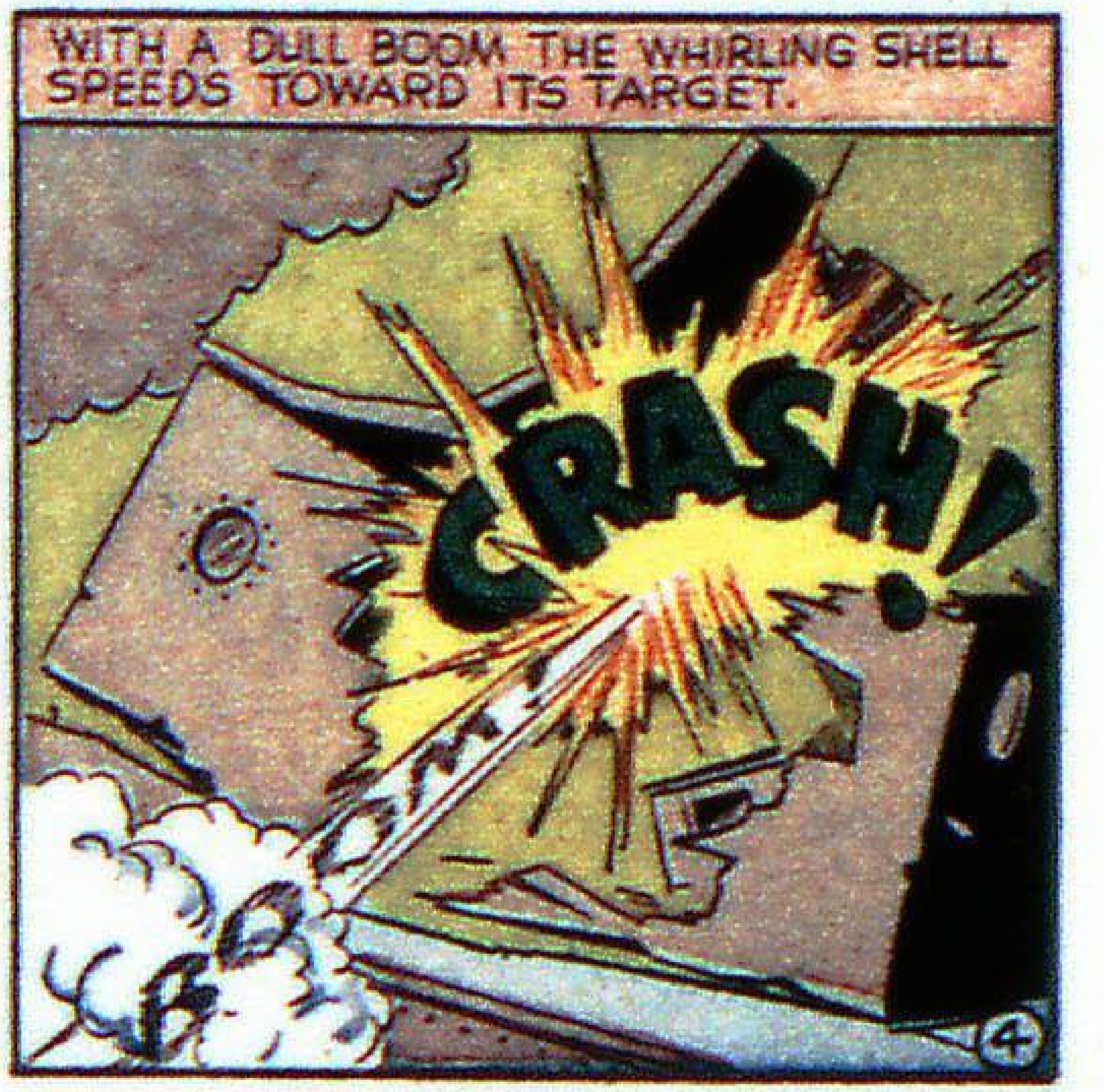


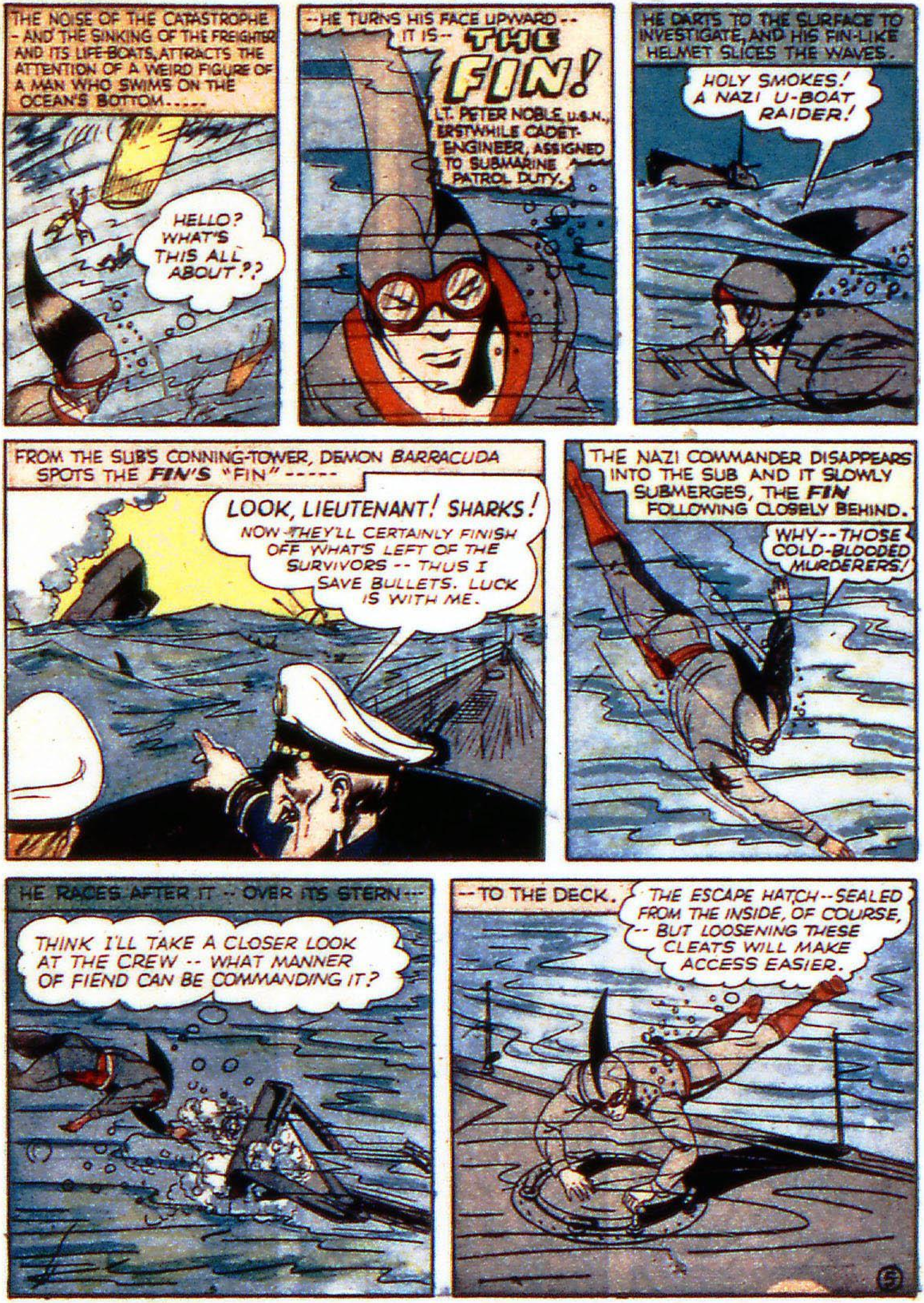

DAS IST GUD! NOW, GIVE THEM A ROUND FROM THE FORWARD GUN -- BLAST OFF THE RADIO SHACK BEFORE THE OPERATOR HAS A CHANCE TO SEND FOR HELP!

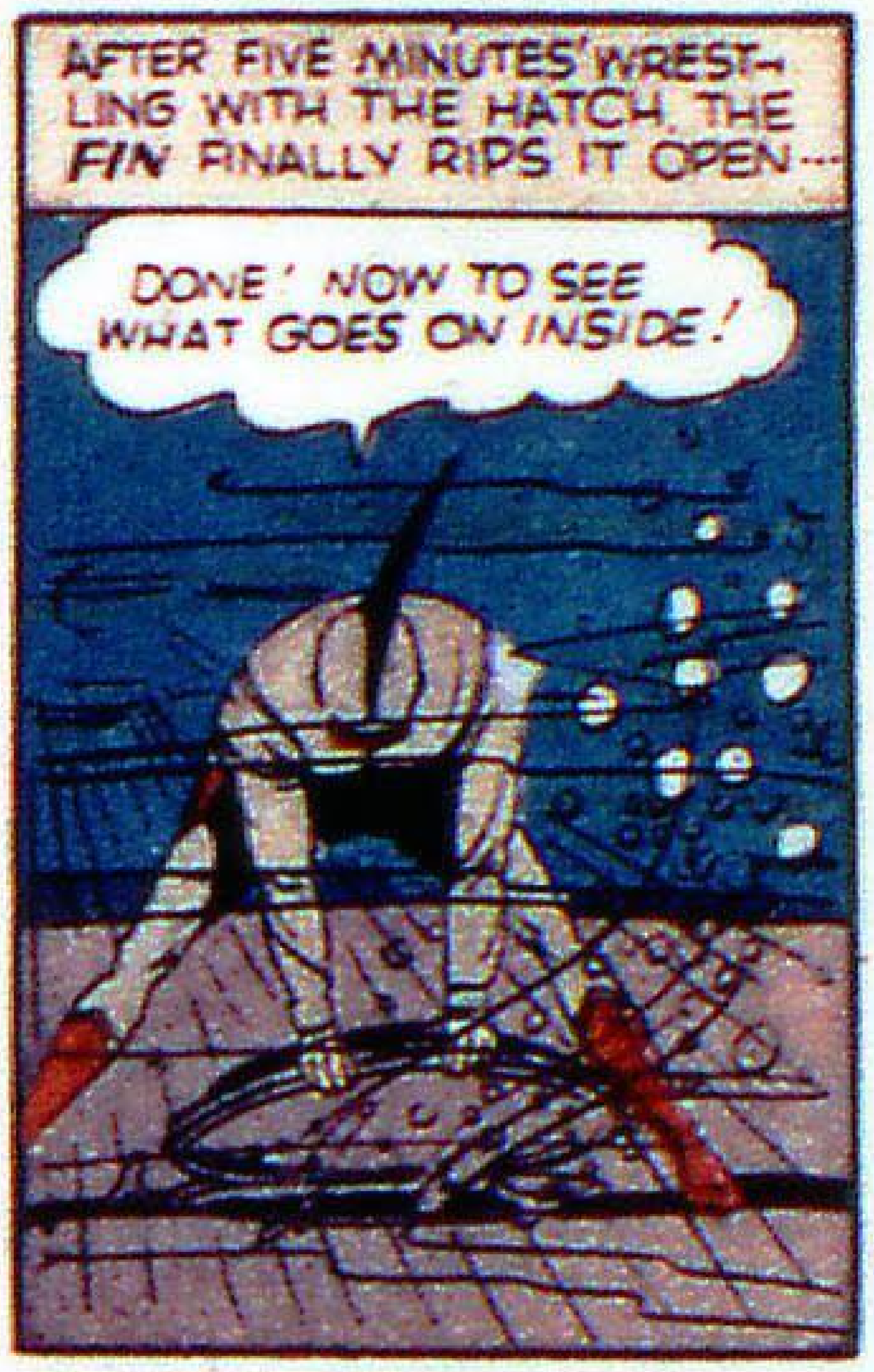
THE GUN SWINGS SLOWLY INTO POSITION.


S
O
S
READY, MEN?

WITH A DULL BOOM THE WHIRLING SHELL SPEEDS TOWARD ITS TARGET.

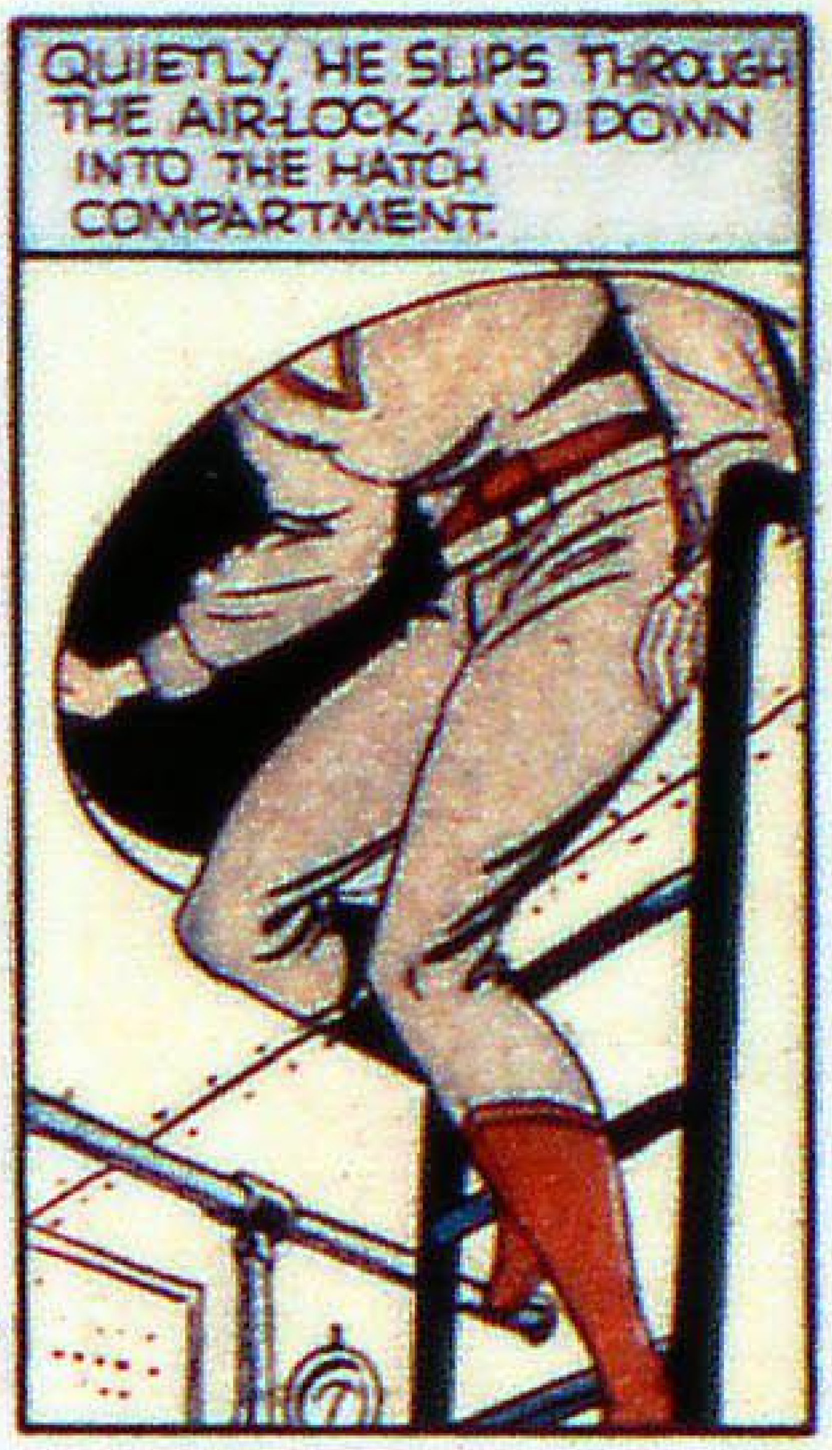



THE NOISE OF THE CATASTROPHE - AND THE SINKING OF THE FREIGHTER AND ITS LIFE-BOATS, ATTRACTS THE ATTENTION OF A WEIRD FIGURE OF A MAN WHO SWIMS ON THE OCEAN'S BOTTOM......
HELLO? WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT??
--HE TURNS HIS FACE UPWARD-- IT IS--
THE FIN!
LT. PETER NOBLE U.S.N., ERSTWHILE CADET-ENGINEER, ASSIGNED TO SUBMARINE PATROL DUTY.
HE DARTS TO THE SURFACE TO INVESTIGATE, AND HIS FIN-LIKE HELMET SLICES THE WAVES.
HOLY SMOKES! A NAZI U-BOAT RAIDER!
FROM THE SUB'S CONNING-TOWER, DEMON BARRACUDA SPOTS THE FIN'S "FIN" -----
LOOK, LIEUTENANT! SHARKS! NOW THEY'LL CERTAINLY FINISH OFF WHAT'S LEFT OF THE SURVIVORS -- THUS I SAVE BULLETS. LUCK IS WITH ME.
THE NAZI COMMANDER DISAPPEARS INTO THE SUB AND IT SLOWLY SUBMERGES, THE FIN FOLLOWING CLOSELY BEHIND.
WHY--THOSE COLD-BLOODED MURDERERS!
HE RACES AFTER IT -- OVER ITS STERN---
THINK I'LL TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CREW -- WHAT MANNER OF FIEND CAN BE COMMANDING IT?
--TO THE DECK.
THE ESCAPE HATCH--SEALED FROM THE INSIDE, OF COURSE, -- BUT LOOSENING THESE CLEATS WILL MAKE ACCESS EASIER.

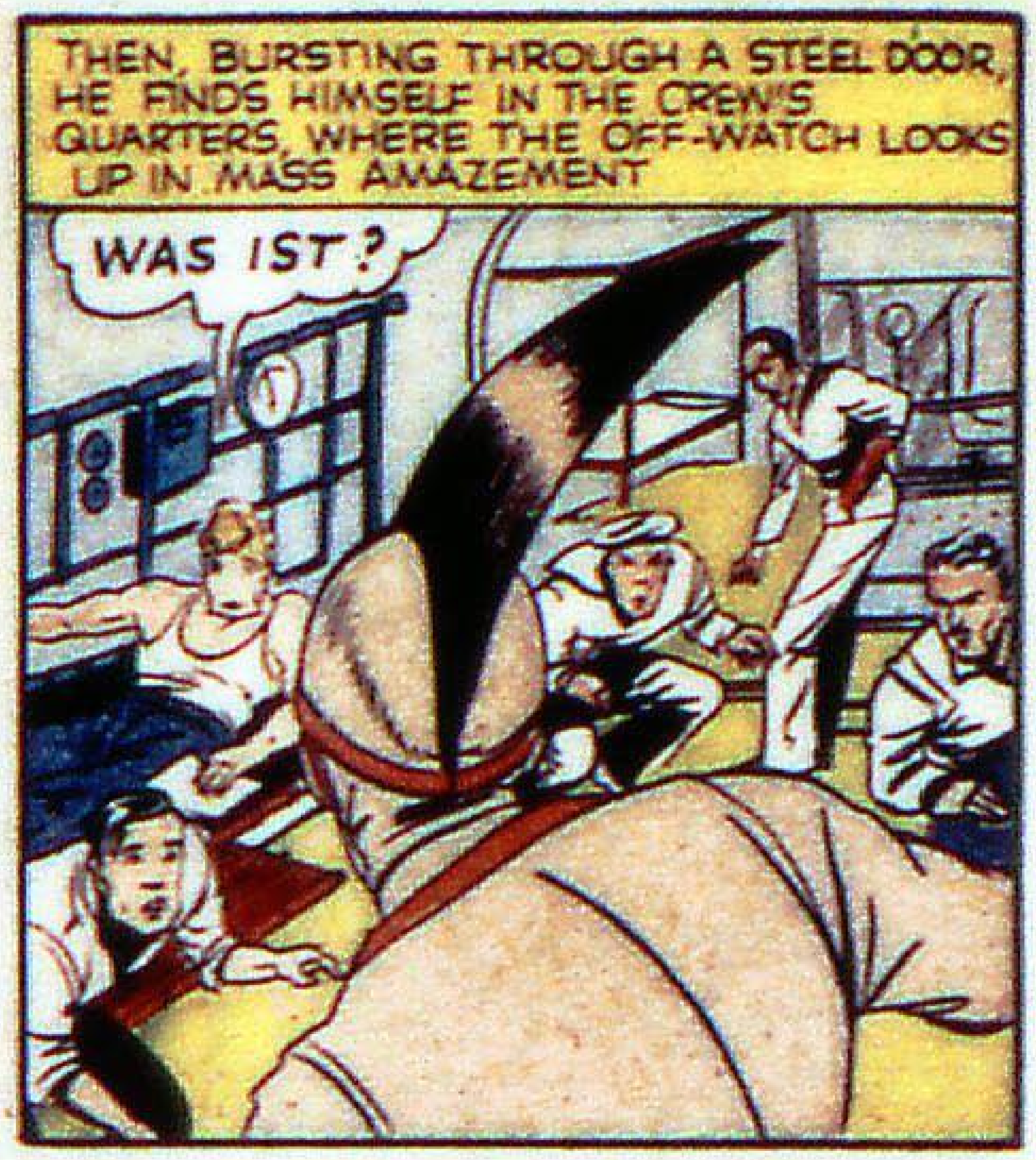


AFTER FIVE MINUTES' WRESTLING WITH THE HATCH, THE *FIN* FINALLY RIPS IT OPEN---

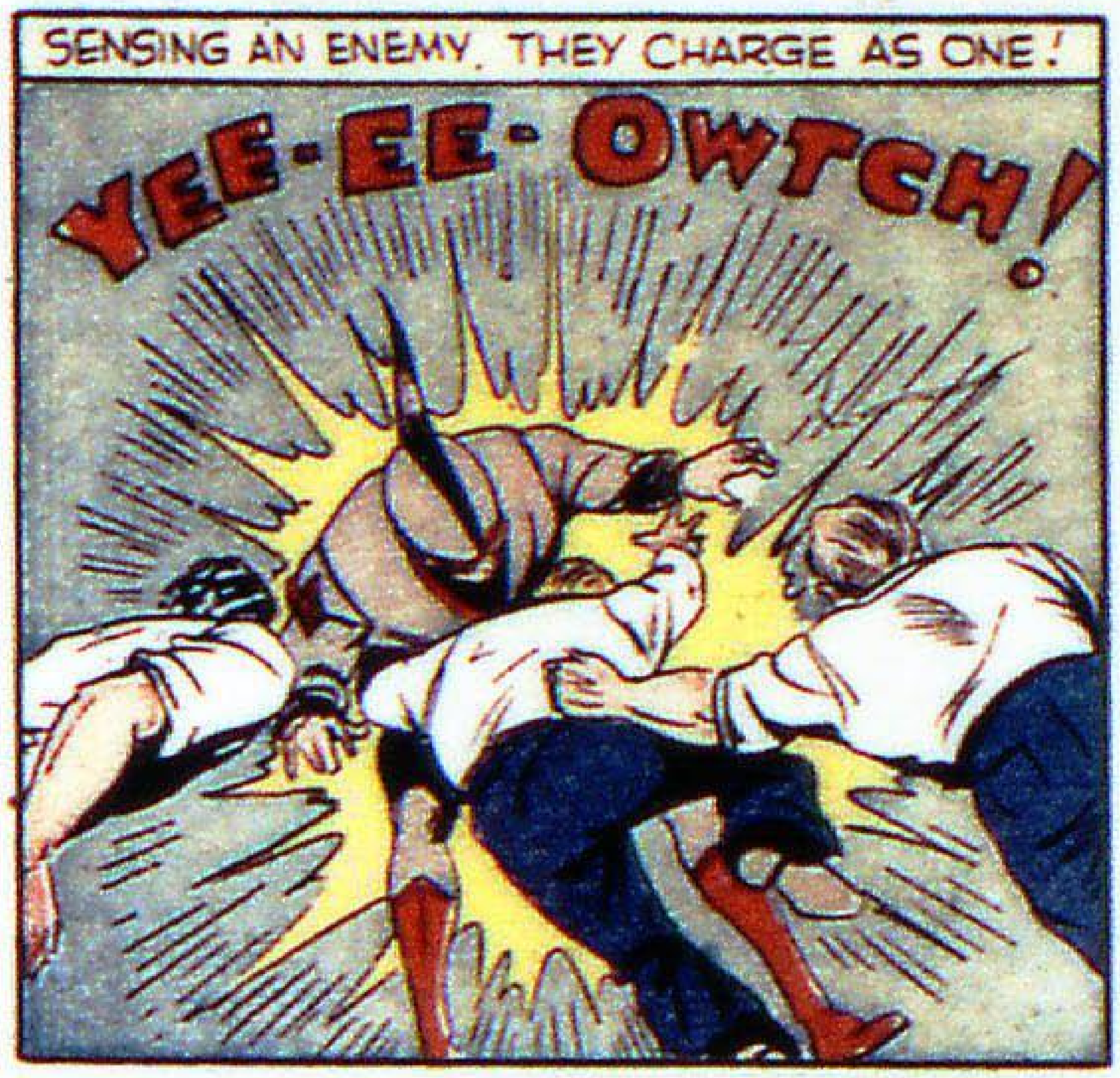
DONE! NOW TO SEE WHAT GOES ON INSIDE!



QUIETLY, HE SLIPS THROUGH THE AIR-LOCK, AND DOWN INTO THE HATCH COMPARTMENT.

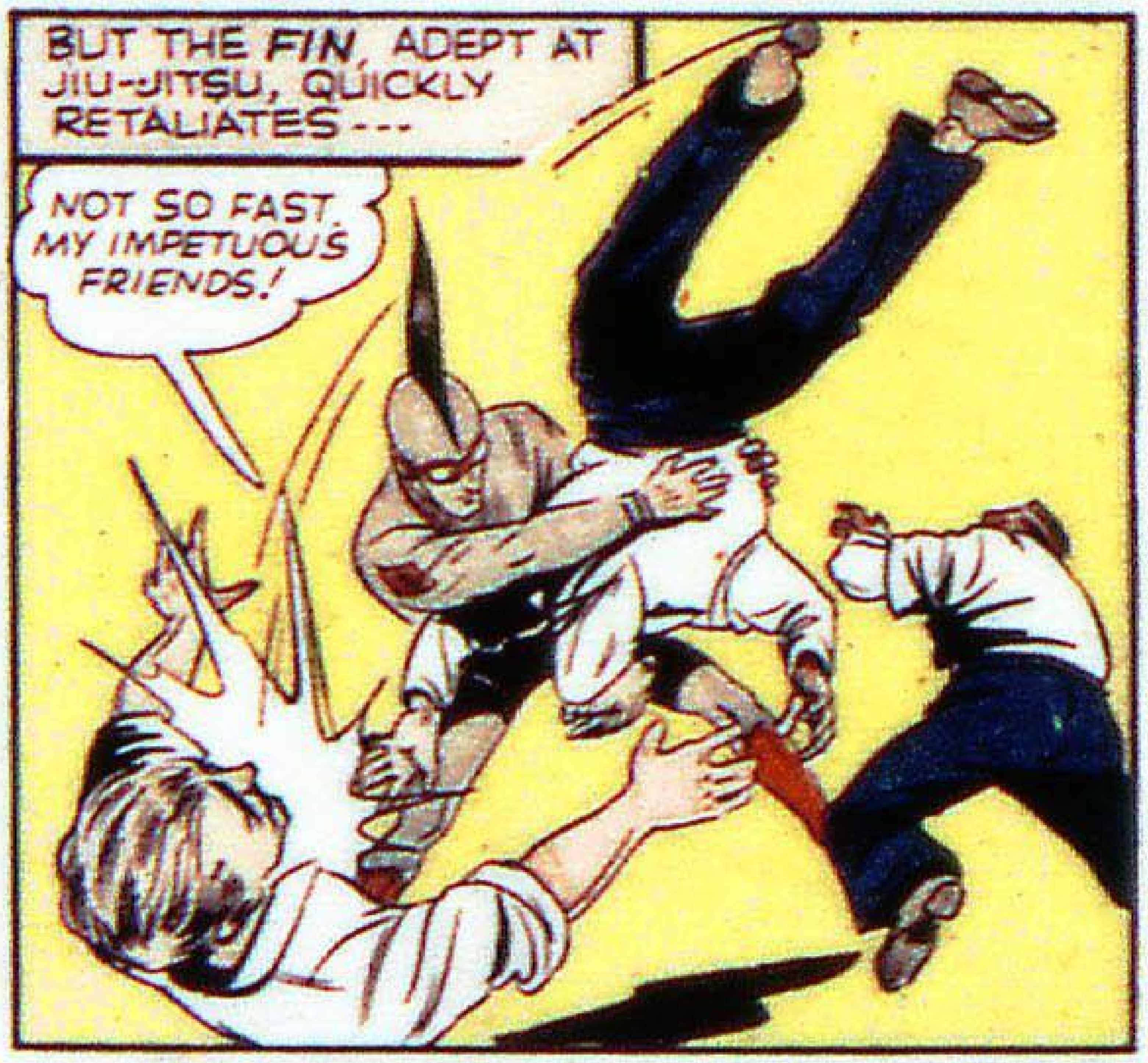


THEN, BURSTING THROUGH A STEEL DOOR, HE FINDS HIMSELF IN THE CREW'S QUARTERS, WHERE THE OFF-WATCH LOOKS UP IN MASS AMAZEMENT



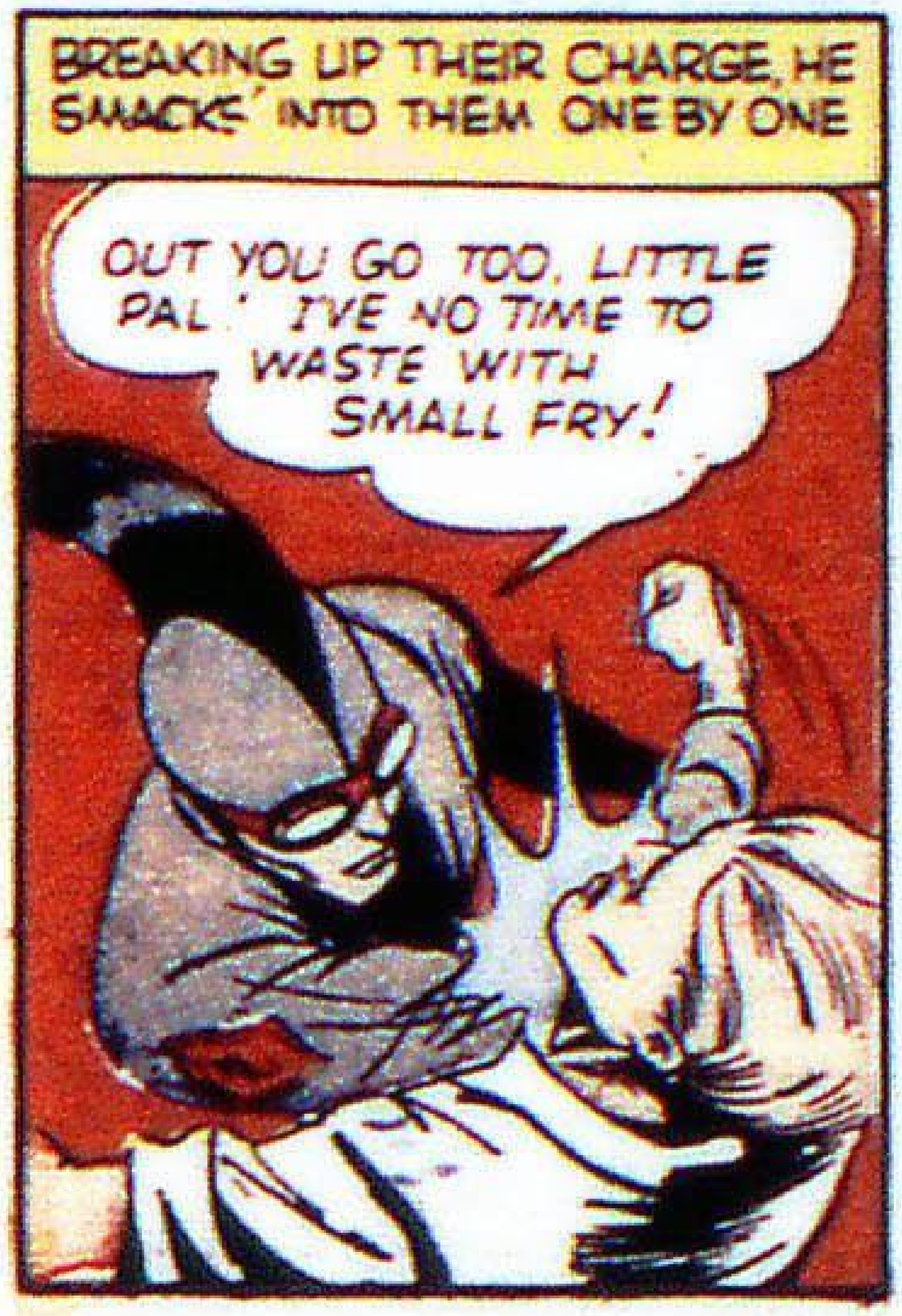
SENSING AN ENEMY, THEY CHARGE AS ONE!

YEE-EE-OWTCH!



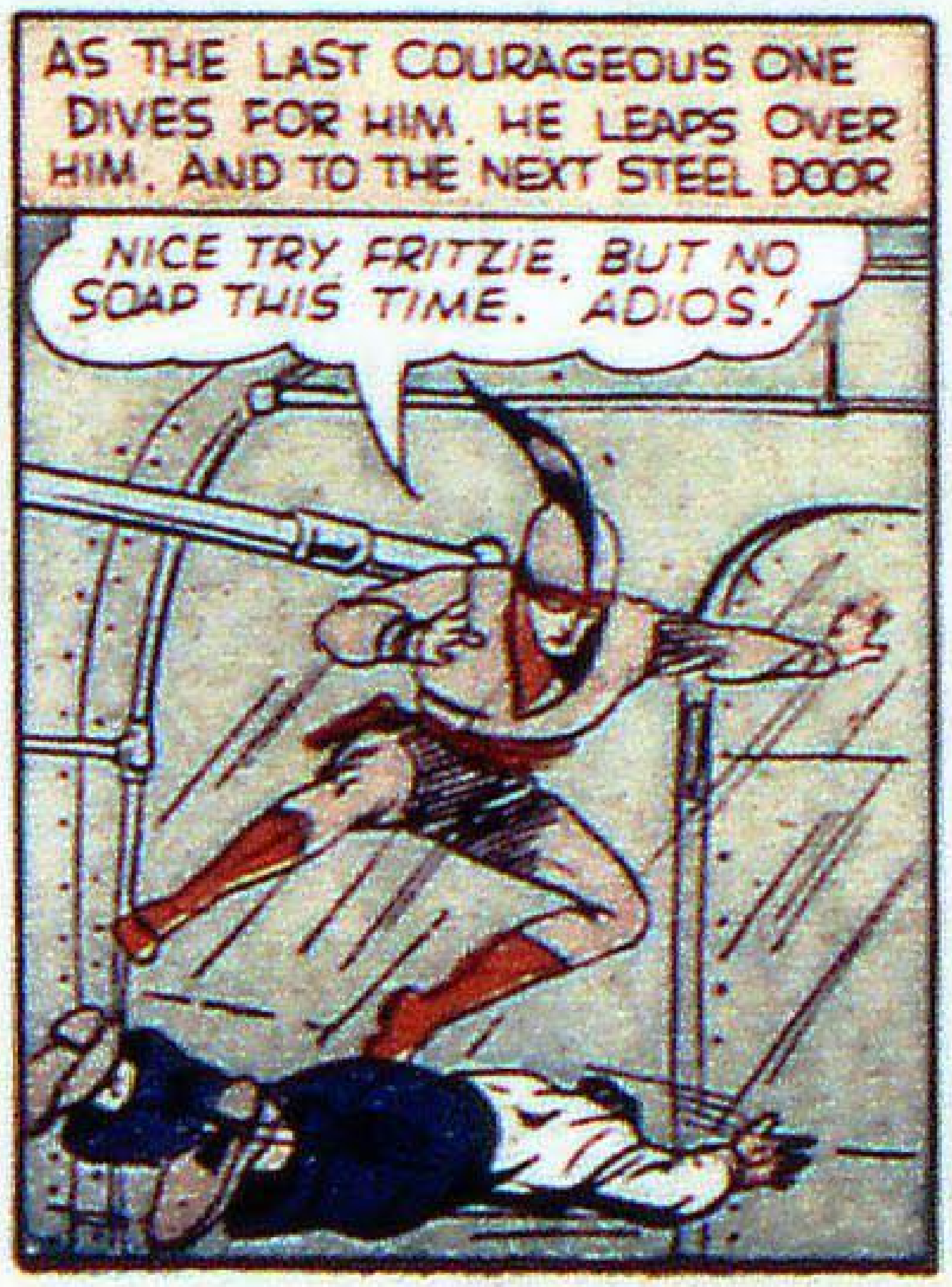
BUT THE *FIN*, ADEPT AT JIU-JITSU, QUICKLY RETALIATES---

NOT SO FAST, MY IMPETUOUS FRIENDS!



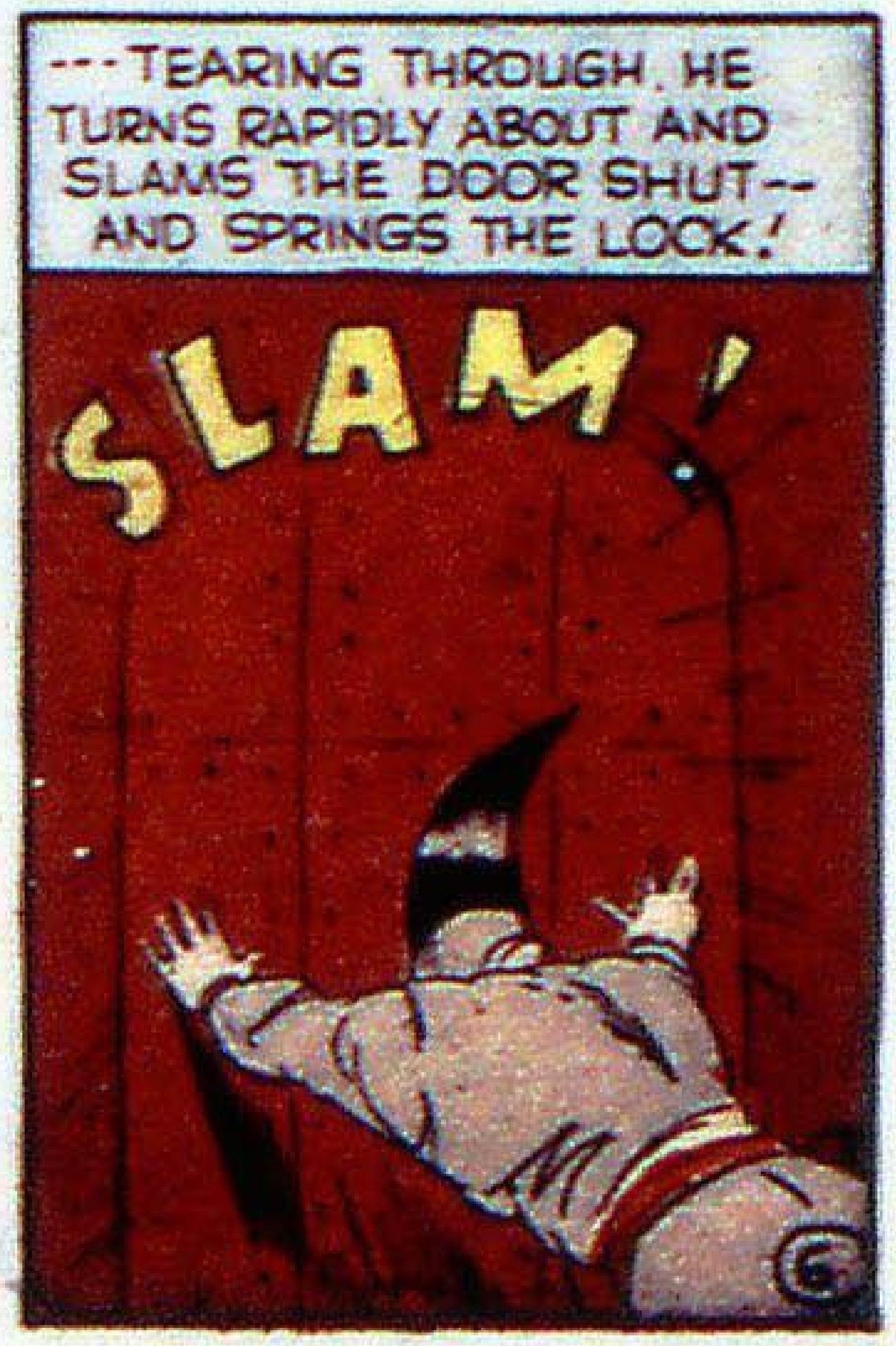
BREAKING UP THEIR CHARGE, HE 'SMACKS' INTO THEM ONE BY ONE

OUT YOU GO TOO, LITTLE PAL! I'VE NO TIME TO WASTE WITH SMALL FRY!

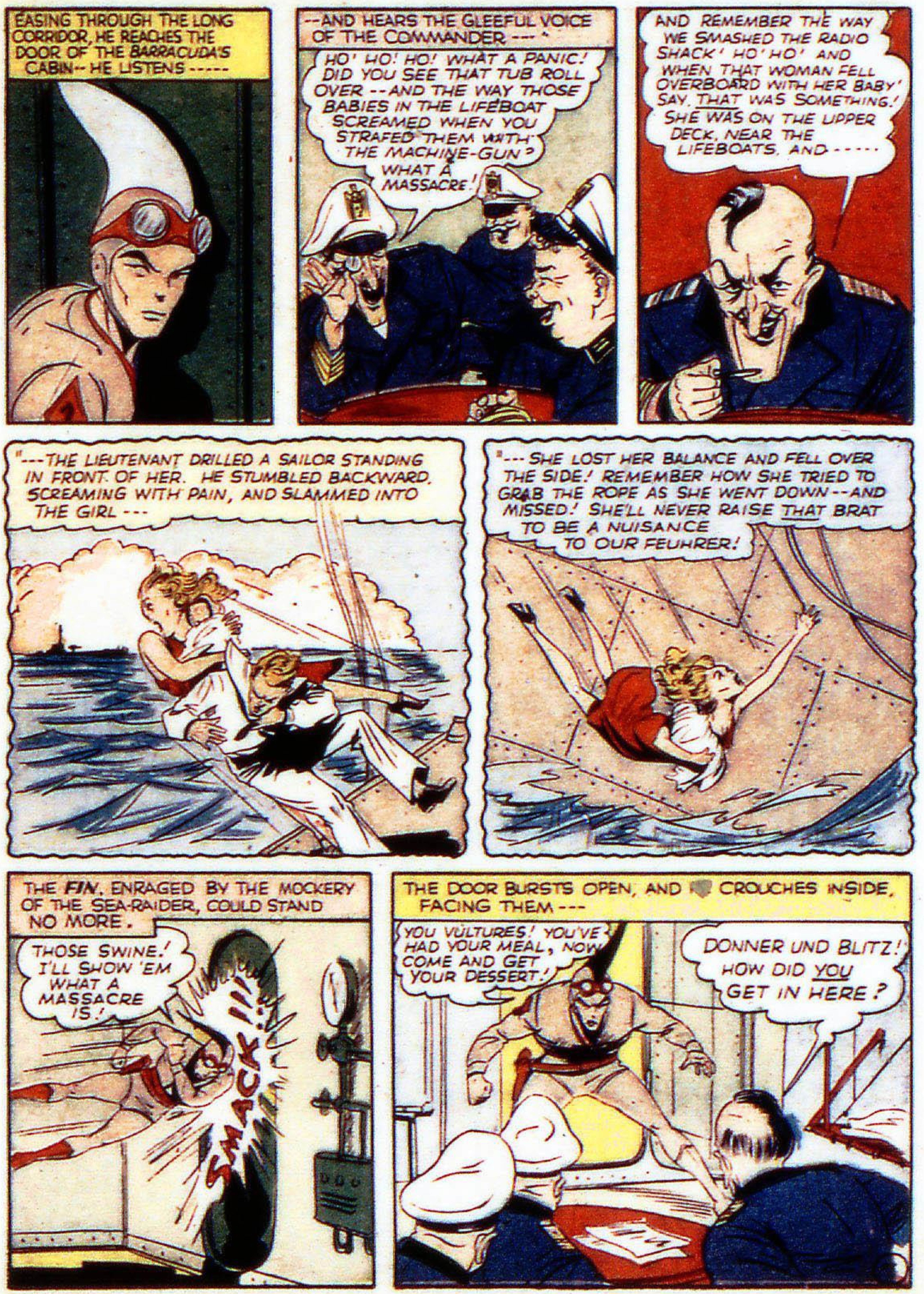


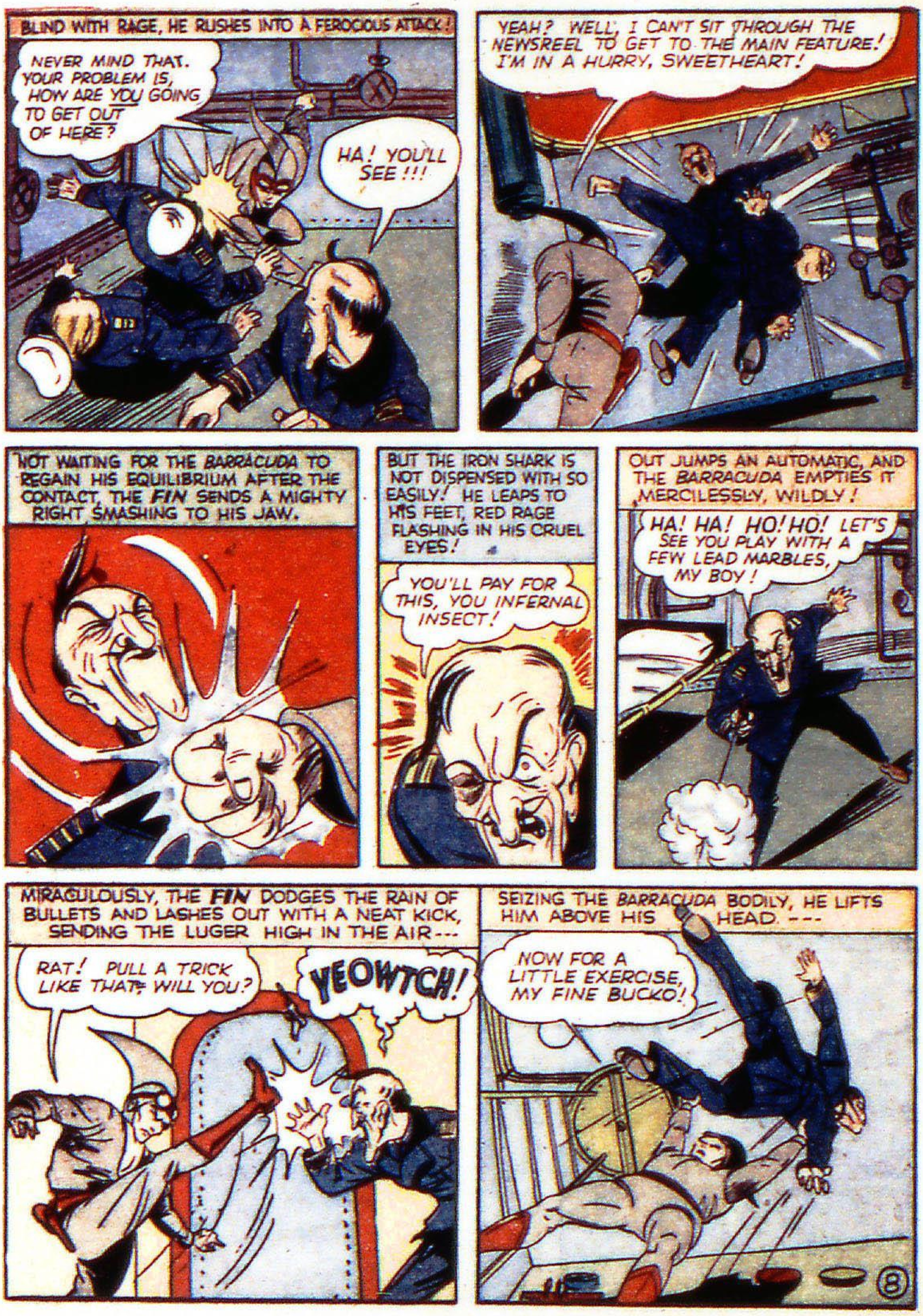
AS THE LAST COURAGEOUS ONE DIVES FOR HIM, HE LEAPS OVER HIM, AND TO THE NEXT STEEL DOOR

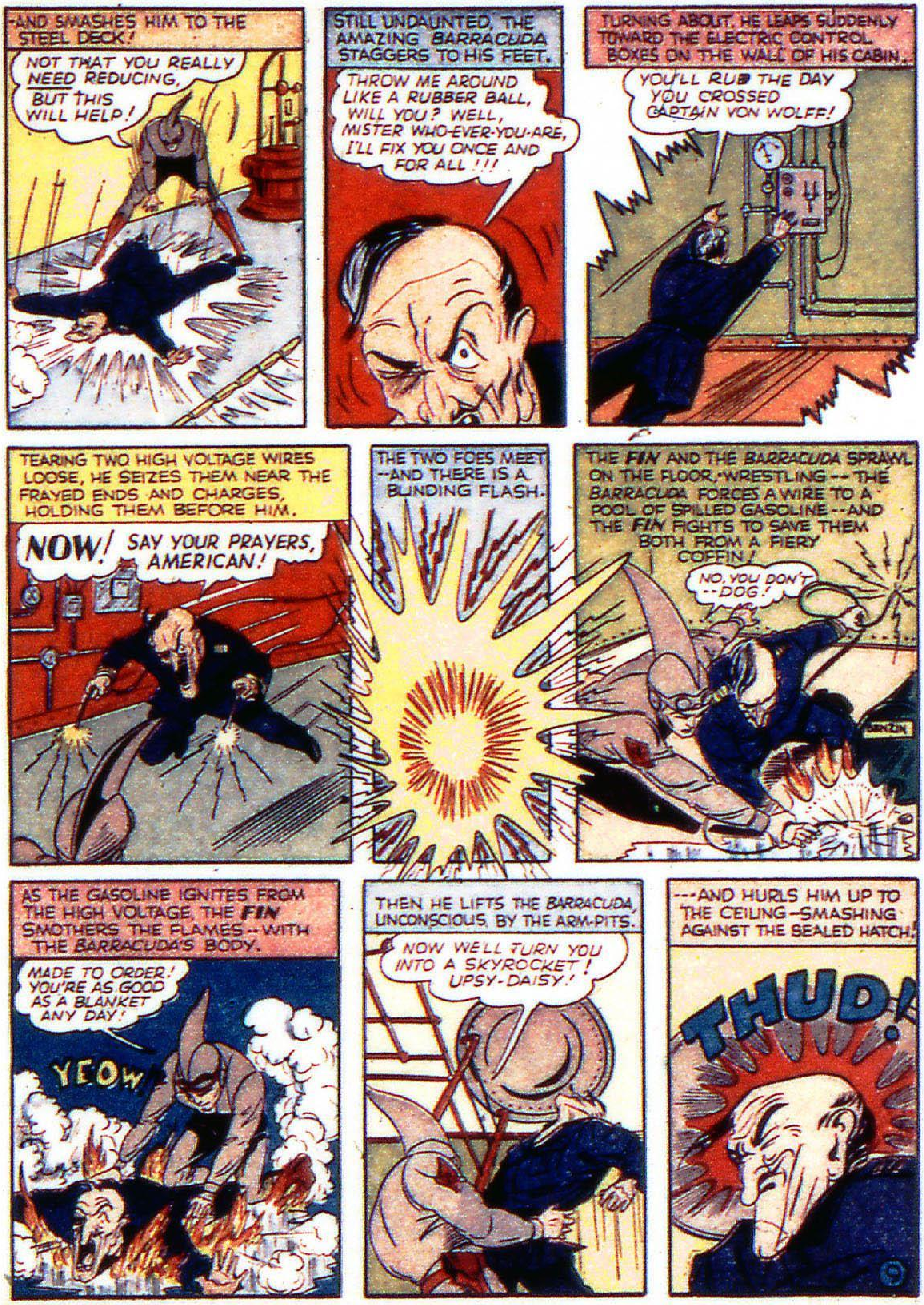
NICE TRY FRITZIE, BUT NO SOAP THIS TIME. ADIOS!

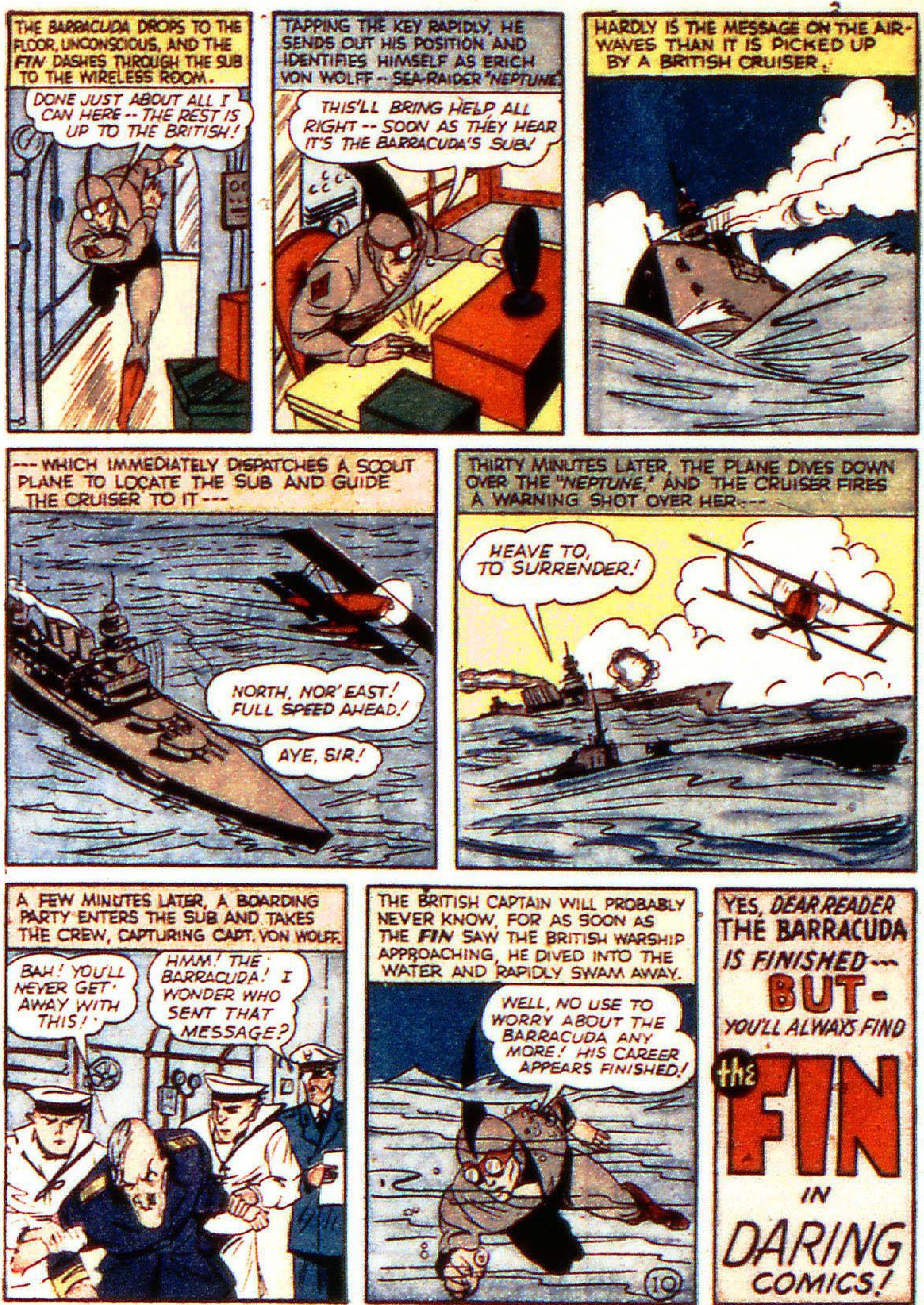


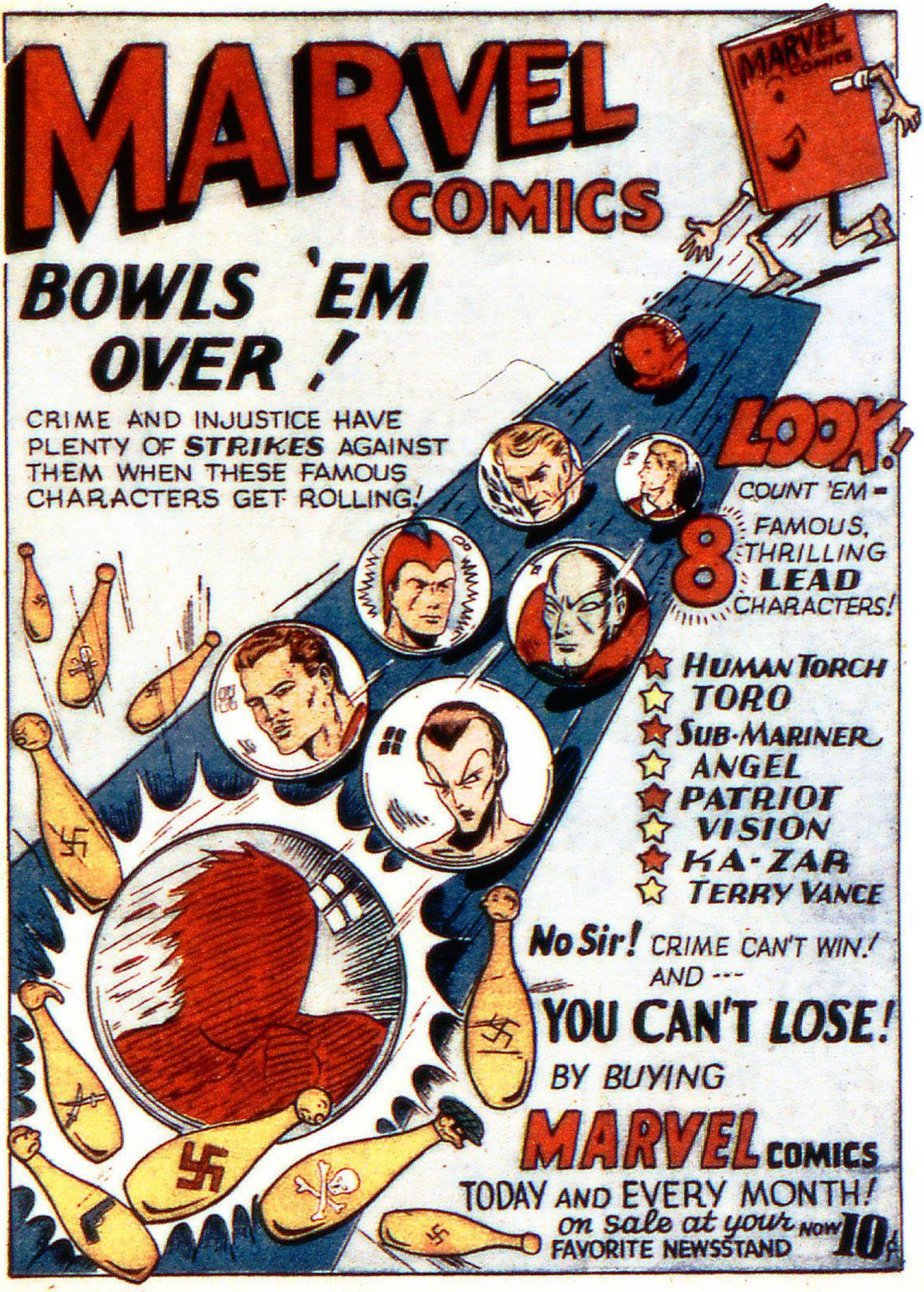
---TEARING THROUGH, HE TURNS RAPIDLY ABOUT AND SLAMS THE DOOR SHUT--AND SPRINGS THE LOCK!


EASING THROUGH THE LONG CORRIDOR, HE REACHES THE DOOR OF THE *BARRACUDA'S* CABIN-- HE LISTENS -----
--AND HEARS THE GLEEFUL VOICE OF THE COMMANDER ---
HO! HO! HO! WHAT A PANIC! DID YOU SEE THAT TUB ROLL OVER --AND THE WAY THOSE BABIES IN THE LIFEBOAT SCREAMED WHEN YOU STRAFED THEM WITH THE MACHINE-GUN?
WHAT A MASSACRE!
AND REMEMBER THE WAY WE SMASHED THE RADIO SHACK! HO! HO! AND WHEN THAT WOMAN FELL OVERBOARD WITH HER BABY! SAY, THAT WAS SOMETHING! SHE WAS ON THE UPPER DECK, NEAR THE LIFEBOATS, AND -----
"---THE LIEUTENANT DRILLED A SAILOR STANDING IN FRONT OF HER. HE STUMBLED BACKWARD, SCREAMING WITH PAIN, AND SLAMMED INTO THE GIRL ---
"--- SHE LOST HER BALANCE AND FELL OVER THE SIDE! REMEMBER HOW SHE TRIED TO GRAB THE ROPE AS SHE WENT DOWN --AND MISSED! SHE'LL NEVER RAISE THAT BRAT TO BE A NUISANCE TO OUR FEUHRER!
THE *FIN*, ENRAGED BY THE MOCKERY OF THE SEA-RAIDER, COULD STAND NO MORE.
THOSE SWINE! I'LL SHOW 'EM WHAT A MASSACRE IS!
SMACK!!!
THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN, AND [illegible] CROUCHES INSIDE, FACING THEM ---
YOU VULTURES! YOU'VE HAD YOUR MEAL, NOW COME AND GET YOUR DESSERT!
DONNER UND BLITZ! HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE?


BLIND WITH RAGE, HE RUSHES INTO A FEROCIOUS ATTACK!
NEVER MIND THAT. YOUR PROBLEM IS, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE?
HA! YOU'LL SEE!!!
YEAH? WELL, I CAN'T SIT THROUGH THE NEWSREEL TO GET TO THE MAIN FEATURE! I'M IN A HURRY, SWEETHEART!
NOT WAITING FOR THE BARRACUDA TO REGAIN HIS EQUILIBRIUM AFTER THE CONTACT, THE FIN SENDS A MIGHTY RIGHT SMASHING TO HIS JAW.
BUT THE IRON SHARK IS NOT DISPENSED WITH SO EASILY! HE LEAPS TO HIS FEET, RED RAGE FLASHING IN HIS CRUEL EYES!
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, YOU INFERNAL INSECT!
OUT JUMPS AN AUTOMATIC, AND THE BARRACUDA EMPTIES IT MERCILESSLY, WILDLY!
HA! HA! HO! HO! LET'S SEE YOU PLAY WITH A FEW LEAD MARBLES, MY BOY!
MIRACULOUSLY, THE FIN DODGES THE RAIN OF BULLETS AND LASHES OUT WITH A NEAT KICK, SENDING THE LUGER HIGH IN THE AIR---
RAT! PULL A TRICK LIKE THAT, WILL YOU?
YEOWTCH!
SEIZING THE BARRACUDA BODILY, HE LIFTS HIM ABOVE HIS HEAD. ---
NOW FOR A LITTLE EXERCISE, MY FINE BUCKO!
8


-AND SMASHES HIM TO THE STEEL DECK!
NOT THAT YOU REALLY NEED REDUCING, BUT THIS WILL HELP!
STILL UNDAUNTED, THE AMAZING BARRACUDA STAGGERS TO HIS FEET.
THROW ME AROUND LIKE A RUBBER BALL, WILL YOU? WELL, MISTER WHO-EVER-YOU-ARE, I'LL FIX YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL!!!
TURNING ABOUT, HE LEAPS SUDDENLY TOWARD THE ELECTRIC CONTROL BOXES ON THE WALL OF HIS CABIN..
YOU'LL RUB THE DAY YOU CROSSED CAPTAIN VON WOLFF!
TEARING TWO HIGH VOLTAGE WIRES LOOSE, HE SEIZES THEM NEAR THE FRAYED ENDS AND CHARGES, HOLDING THEM BEFORE HIM.
NOW! SAY YOUR PRAYERS, AMERICAN!
THE TWO FOES MEET --AND THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH.
THE FIN AND THE BARRACUDA SPRAWL ON THE FLOOR, WRESTLING -- THE BARRACUDA FORCES A WIRE TO A POOL OF SPILLED GASOLINE --AND THE FIN FIGHTS TO SAVE THEM BOTH FROM A FIERY COFFIN!
NO, YOU DON'T --DOG!
BENZIN
AS THE GASOLINE IGNITES FROM THE HIGH VOLTAGE, THE FIN SMOTHERS THE FLAMES -- WITH THE BARRACUDA'S BODY.
MADE TO ORDER! YOU'RE AS GOOD AS A BLANKET ANY DAY!
YEOW
THEN HE LIFTS THE BARRACUDA, UNCONSCIOUS, BY THE ARM-PITS.
NOW WE'LL TURN YOU INTO A SKYROCKET! UPSY-DAISY!
---AND HURLS HIM UP TO THE CEILING-SMASHING AGAINST THE SEALED HATCH!
THUD!
9


THE BARRACUDA DROPS TO THE FLOOR, UNCONSCIOUS, AND THE FIN DASHES THROUGH THE SUB TO THE WIRELESS ROOM.
DONE JUST ABOUT ALL I CAN HERE -- THE REST IS UP TO THE BRITISH!
TAPPING THE KEY RAPIDLY, HE SENDS OUT HIS POSITION AND IDENTIFIES HIMSELF AS ERICH VON WOLFF -- SEA-RAIDER "NEPTUNE".
THIS'LL BRING HELP ALL RIGHT -- SOON AS THEY HEAR IT'S THE BARRACUDA'S SUB!
HARDLY IS THE MESSAGE ON THE AIR-WAVES THAN IT IS PICKED UP BY A BRITISH CRUISER.
--- WHICH IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHES A SCOUT PLANE TO LOCATE THE SUB AND GUIDE THE CRUISER TO IT ---
NORTH, NOR' EAST! FULL SPEED AHEAD!
AYE, SIR!
THIRTY MINUTES LATER, THE PLANE DIVES DOWN OVER THE "NEPTUNE," AND THE CRUISER FIRES A WARNING SHOT OVER HER---
HEAVE TO, TO SURRENDER!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, A BOARDING PARTY ENTERS THE SUB AND TAKES THE CREW, CAPTURING CAPT. VON WOLFF.
BAH! YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY WITH THIS!
HMM! THE BARRACUDA! I WONDER WHO SENT THAT MESSAGE?
THE BRITISH CAPTAIN WILL PROBABLY NEVER KNOW, FOR AS SOON AS THE FIN SAW THE BRITISH WARSHIP APPROACHING, HE DIVED INTO THE WATER AND RAPIDLY SWAM AWAY.
WELL, NO USE TO WORRY ABOUT THE BARRACUDA ANY MORE! HIS CAREER APPEARS FINISHED!
YES, DEAR READER THE BARRACUDA IS FINISHED--- BUT- YOU'LL ALWAYS FIND the FIN IN DARING COMICS!



# MARVEL COMICS

## BOWLS 'EM OVER!

CRIME AND INJUSTICE HAVE PLENTY OF **STRIKES** AGAINST THEM WHEN THESE FAMOUS CHARACTERS GET ROLLING!

**LOOK!**

COUNT 'EM –
8 FAMOUS, THRILLING **LEAD** CHARACTERS!

- ★ HUMAN TORCH
- ☆ TORO
- ★ SUB-MARINER
- ☆ ANGEL
- ★ PATRIOT
- ☆ VISION
- ★ KA-ZAR
- ☆ TERRY VANCE

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**YOU CAN'T LOSE!**

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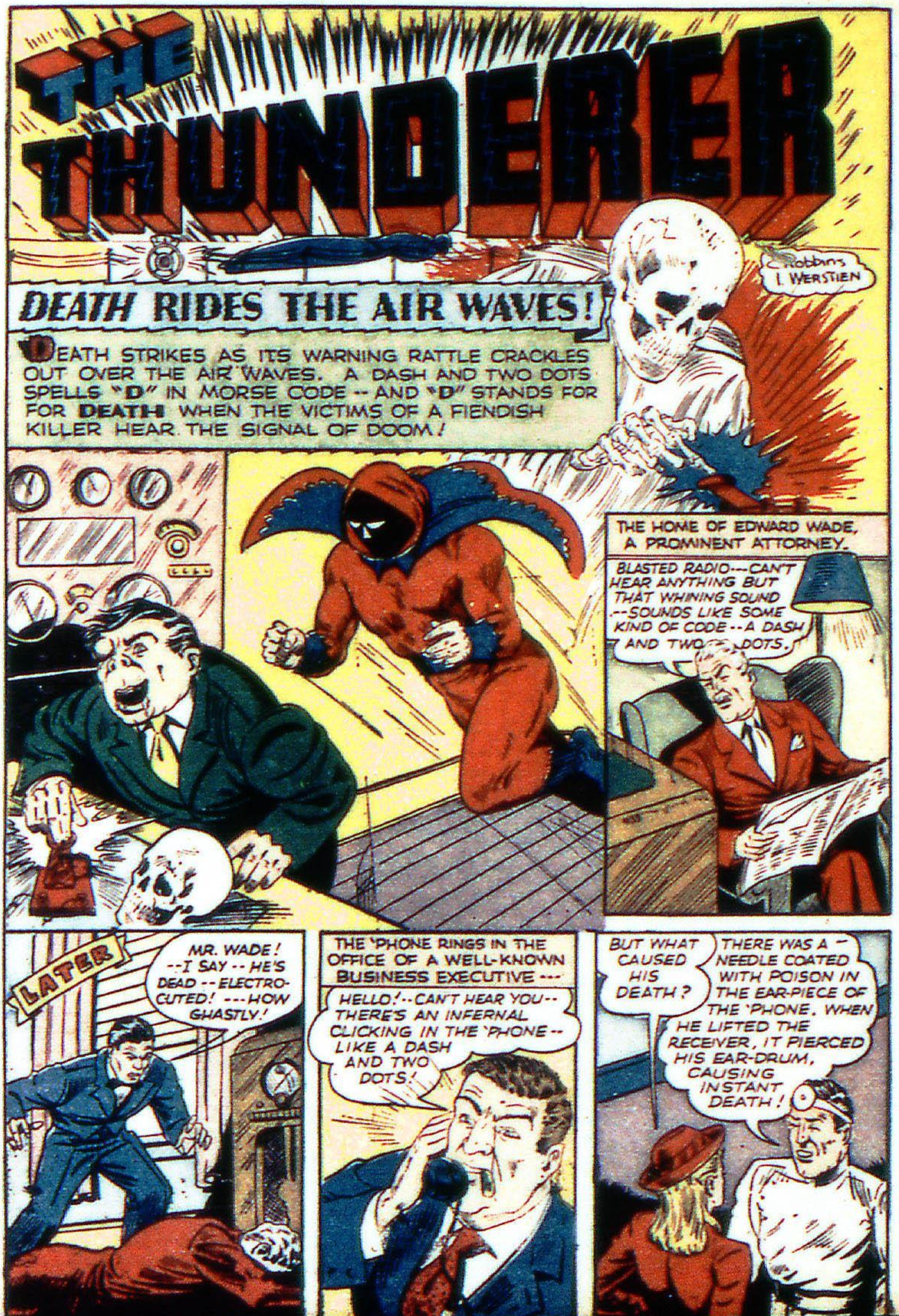
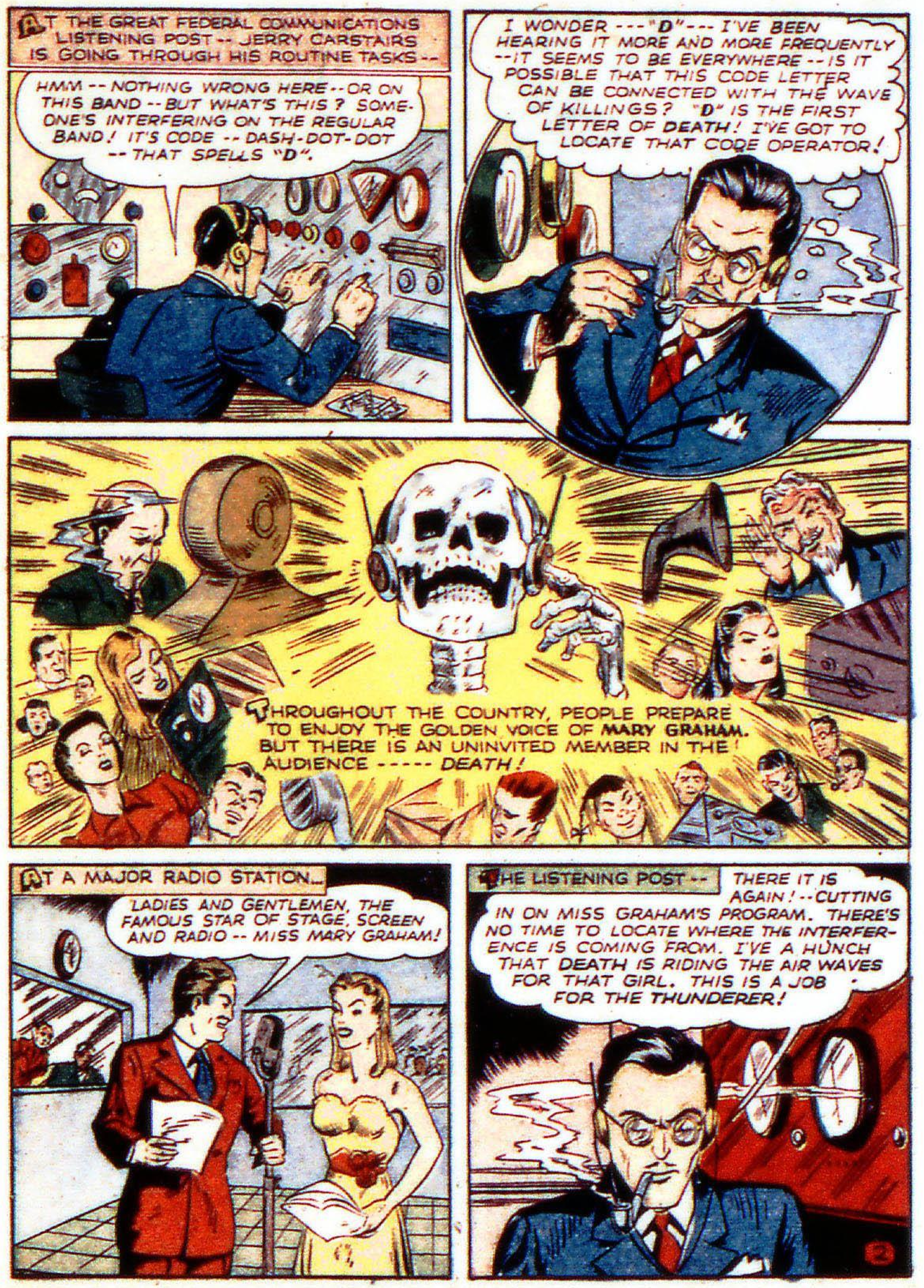
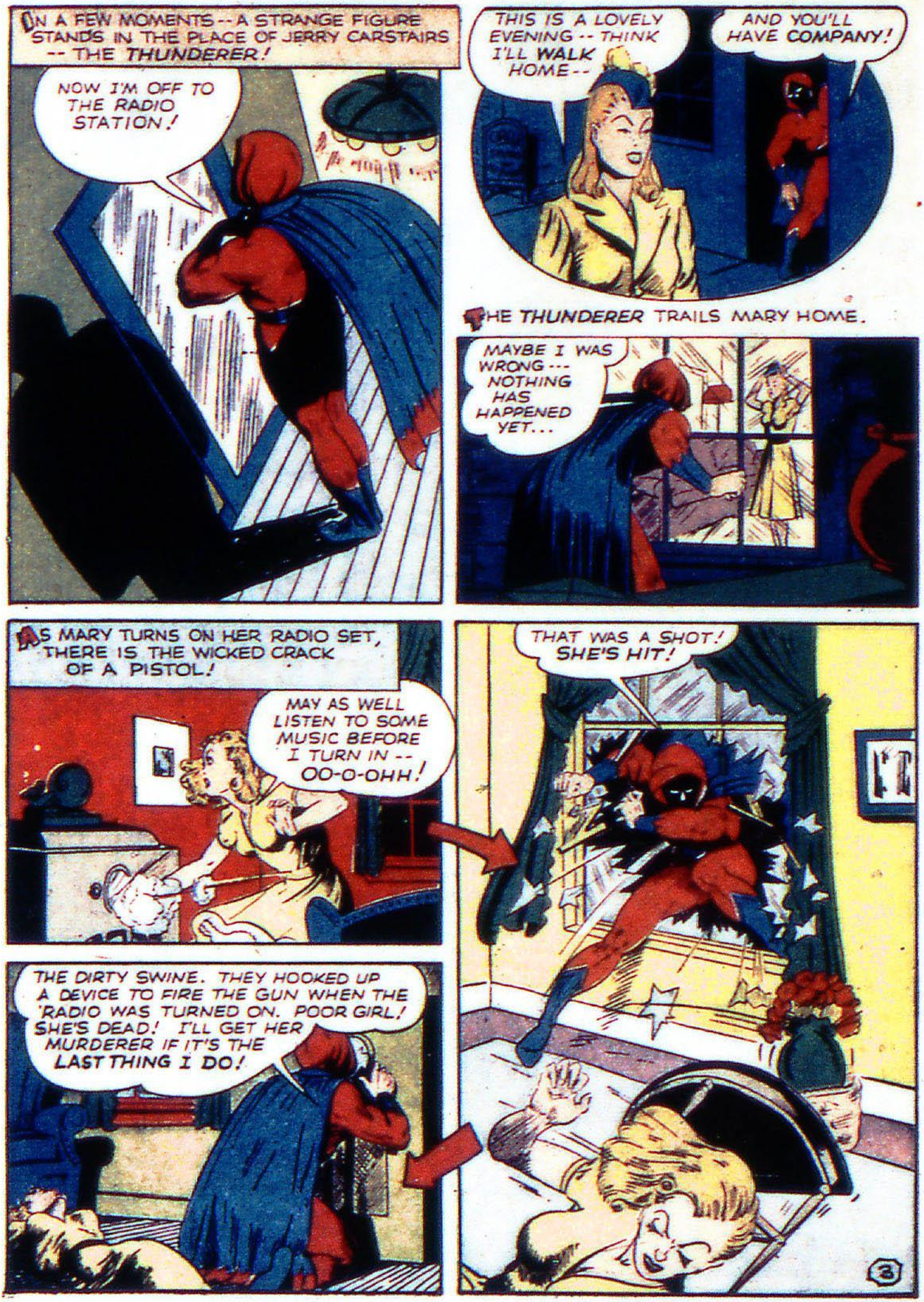
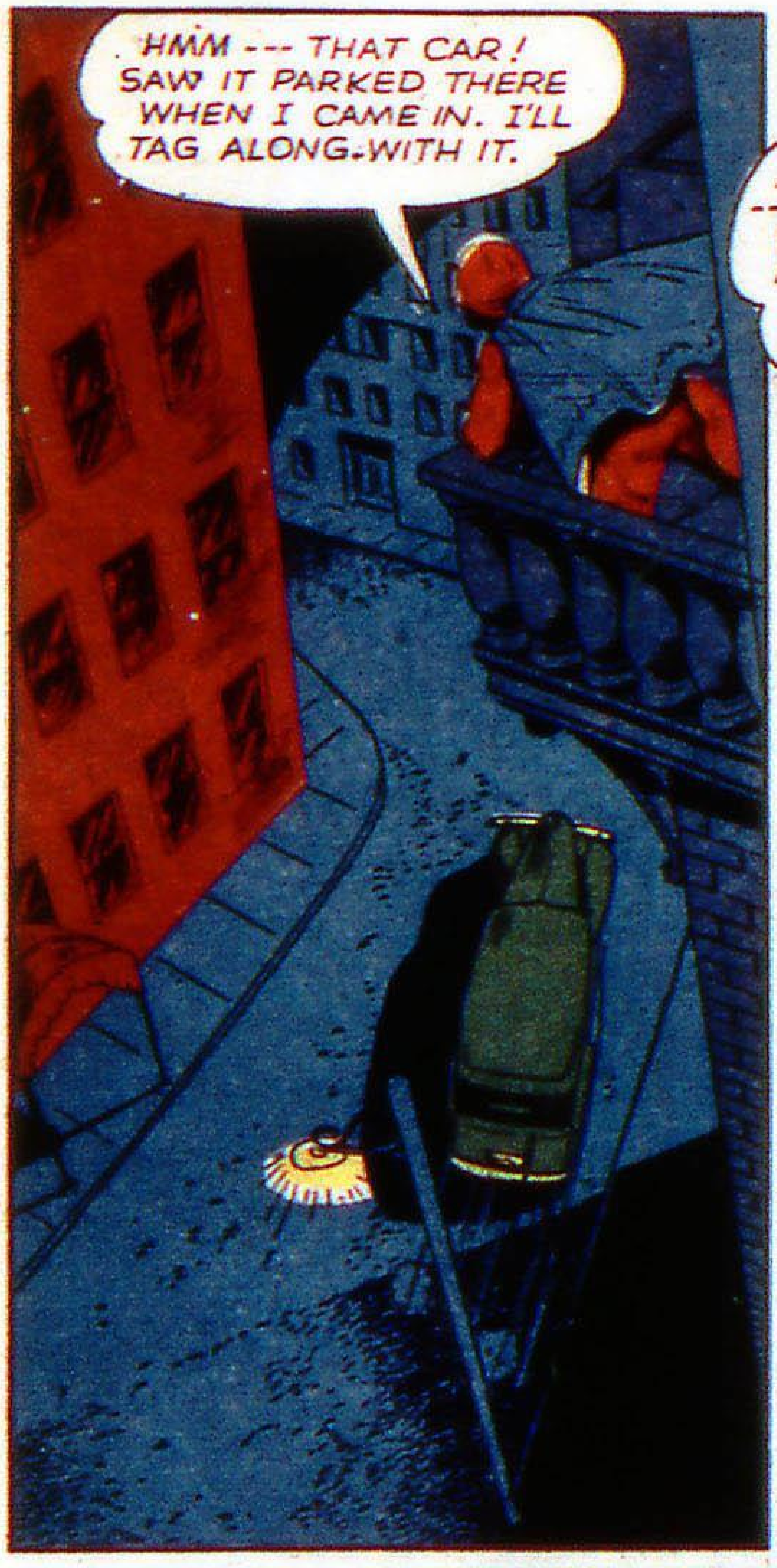
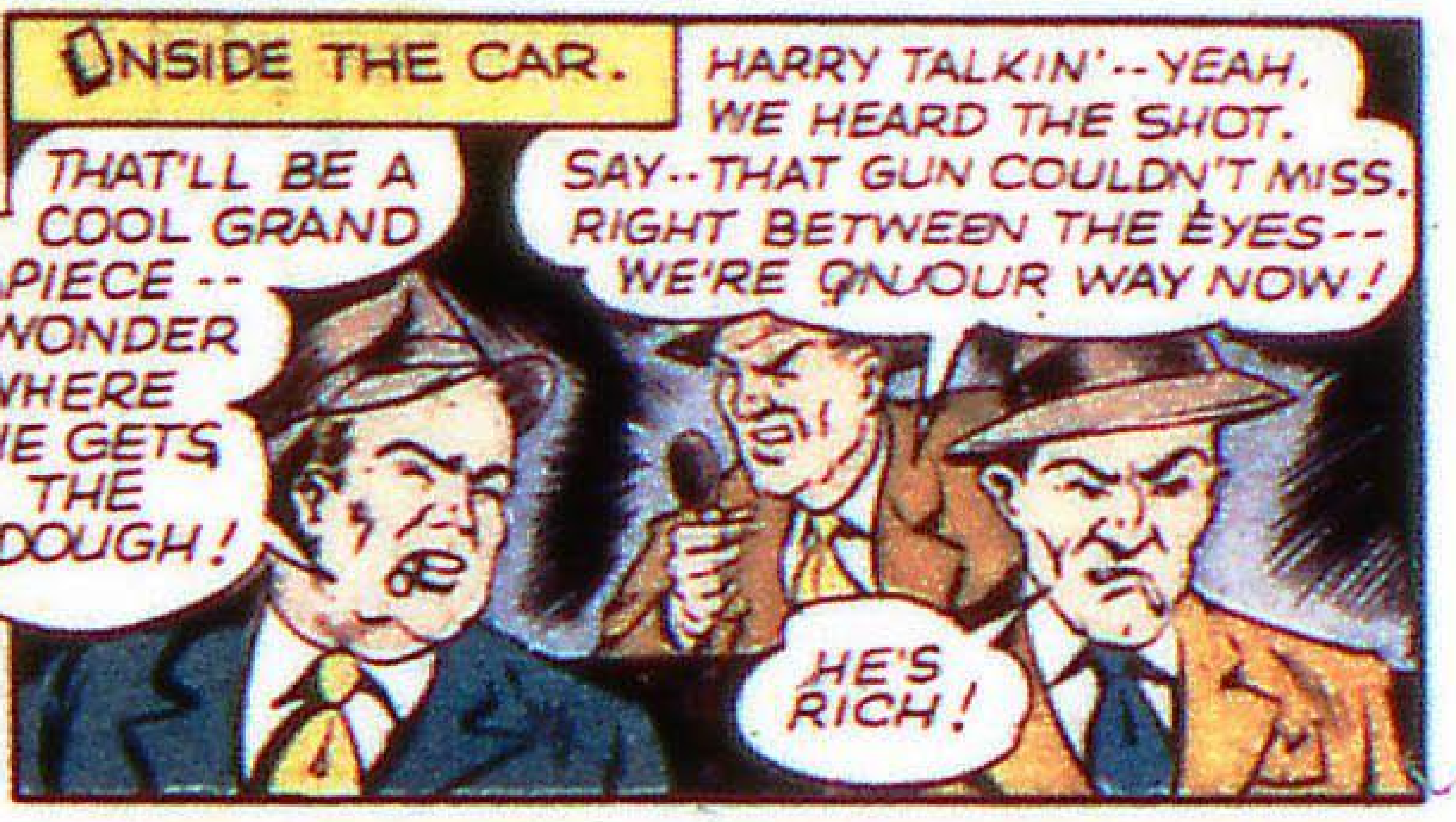
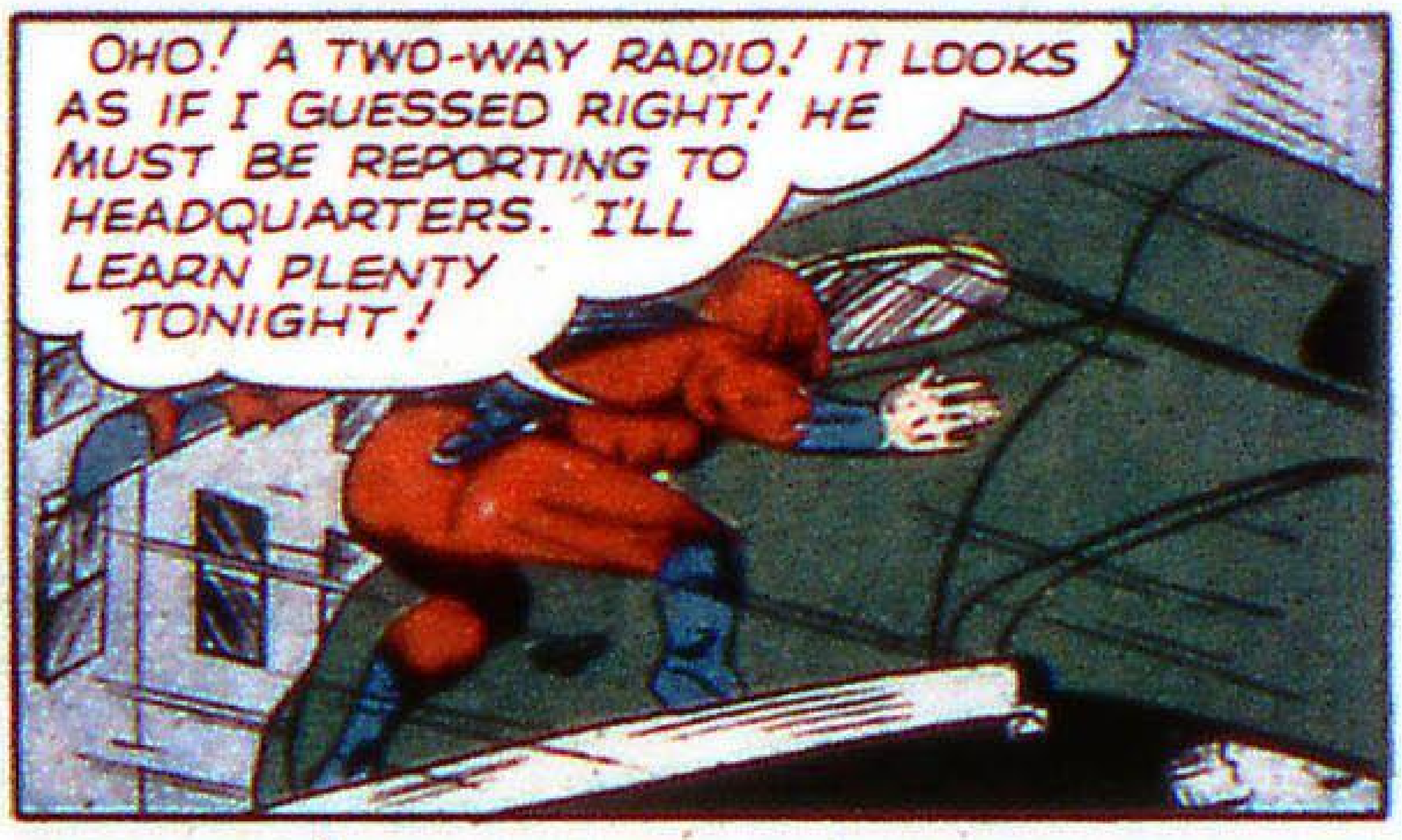

THE THUNDERER
C. Robbins
I. WERSTIEN
DEATH RIDES THE AIR WAVES!
DEATH STRIKES AS ITS WARNING RATTLE CRACKLES OUT OVER THE AIR WAVES. A DASH AND TWO DOTS SPELLS "D" IN MORSE CODE -- AND "D" STANDS FOR FOR DEATH! WHEN THE VICTIMS OF A FIENDISH KILLER HEAR THE SIGNAL OF DOOM!
THE HOME OF EDWARD WADE, A PROMINENT ATTORNEY.
BLASTED RADIO---CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING BUT THAT WHINING SOUND --SOUNDS LIKE SOME KIND OF CODE--A DASH AND TWO DOTS.
LATER
MR. WADE! --I SAY-- HE'S DEAD--ELECTROCUTED! ---HOW GHASTLY!
THE 'PHONE RINGS IN THE OFFICE OF A WELL-KNOWN BUSINESS EXECUTIVE---
HELLO!--CAN'T HEAR YOU-- THERE'S AN INFERNAL CLICKING IN THE 'PHONE-- LIKE A DASH AND TWO DOTS!
BUT WHAT CAUSED HIS DEATH?
THERE WAS A NEEDLE COATED WITH POISON IN THE EAR-PIECE OF THE 'PHONE. WHEN HE LIFTED THE RECEIVER, IT PIERCED HIS EAR-DRUM, CAUSING INSTANT DEATH!

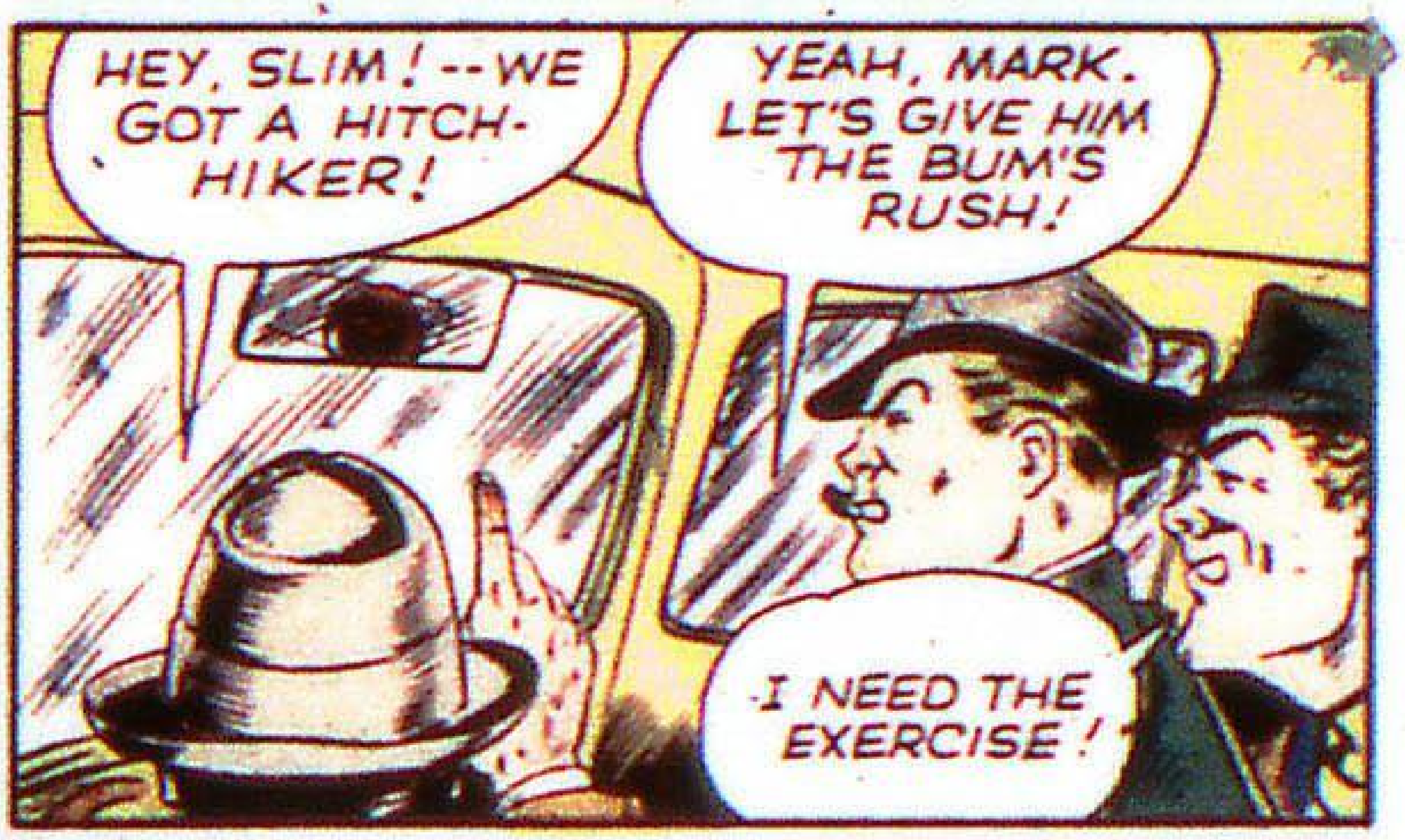

AT THE GREAT FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS LISTENING POST -- JERRY CARSTAIRS IS GOING THROUGH HIS ROUTINE TASKS--
HMM -- NOTHING WRONG HERE -- OR ON THIS BAND -- BUT WHAT'S THIS ? SOMEONE'S INTERFERING ON THE REGULAR BAND ! IT'S CODE -- DASH-DOT-DOT -- THAT SPELLS "D".
I WONDER --- "D" --- I'VE BEEN HEARING IT MORE AND MORE FREQUENTLY -- IT SEEMS TO BE EVERYWHERE -- IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THIS CODE LETTER CAN BE CONNECTED WITH THE WAVE OF KILLINGS? "D" IS THE FIRST LETTER OF DEATH ! I'VE GOT TO LOCATE THAT CODE OPERATOR !
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, PEOPLE PREPARE TO ENJOY THE GOLDEN VOICE OF MARY GRAHAM. BUT THERE IS AN UNINVITED MEMBER IN THE AUDIENCE ----- DEATH !
AT A MAJOR RADIO STATION...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE FAMOUS STAR OF STAGE, SCREEN AND RADIO -- MISS MARY GRAHAM !
THE LISTENING POST --
THERE IT IS AGAIN ! -- CUTTING IN ON MISS GRAHAM'S PROGRAM. THERE'S NO TIME TO LOCATE WHERE THE INTERFERENCE IS COMING FROM. I'VE A HUNCH THAT DEATH IS RIDING THE AIR WAVES FOR THAT GIRL. THIS IS A JOB FOR THE THUNDERER !

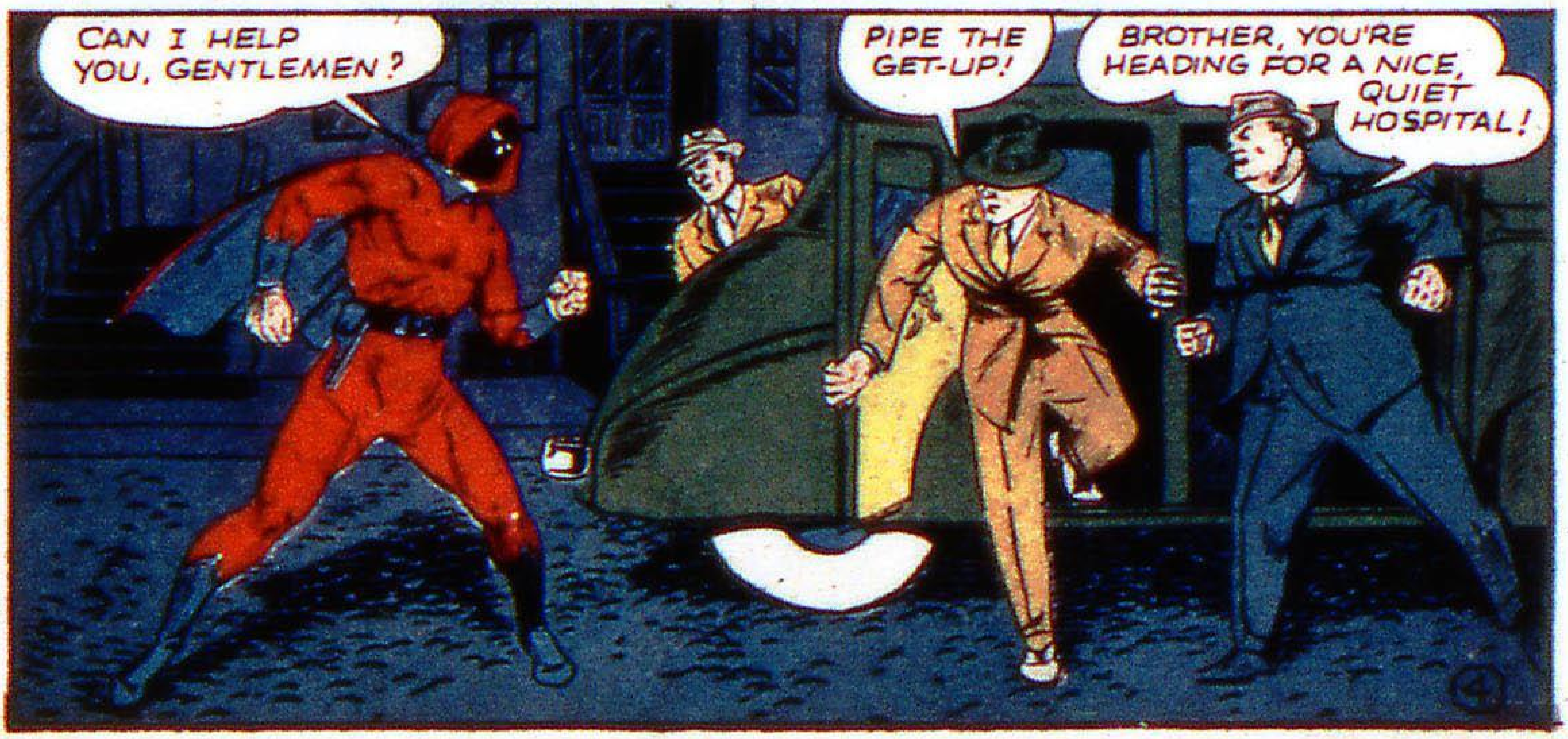

IN A FEW MOMENTS -- A STRANGE FIGURE STANDS IN THE PLACE OF JERRY CARSTAIRS -- THE *THUNDERER!*
NOW I'M OFF TO THE RADIO STATION!
THIS IS A LOVELY EVENING -- THINK I'LL **WALK** HOME --
AND YOU'LL HAVE **COMPANY!**
THE *THUNDERER* TRAILS MARY HOME.
MAYBE I WAS WRONG --- NOTHING HAS HAPPENED YET...
AS MARY TURNS ON HER RADIO SET, THERE IS THE WICKED CRACK OF A PISTOL!
MAY AS WELL LISTEN TO SOME MUSIC BEFORE I TURN IN -- OO-O-OHH!
THAT WAS A SHOT! **SHE'S HIT!**
THE DIRTY SWINE. THEY HOOKED UP A DEVICE TO FIRE THE GUN WHEN THE 'RADIO WAS TURNED ON. POOR GIRL! SHE'S DEAD! I'LL GET HER MURDERER IF IT'S THE **LAST THING I DO!**

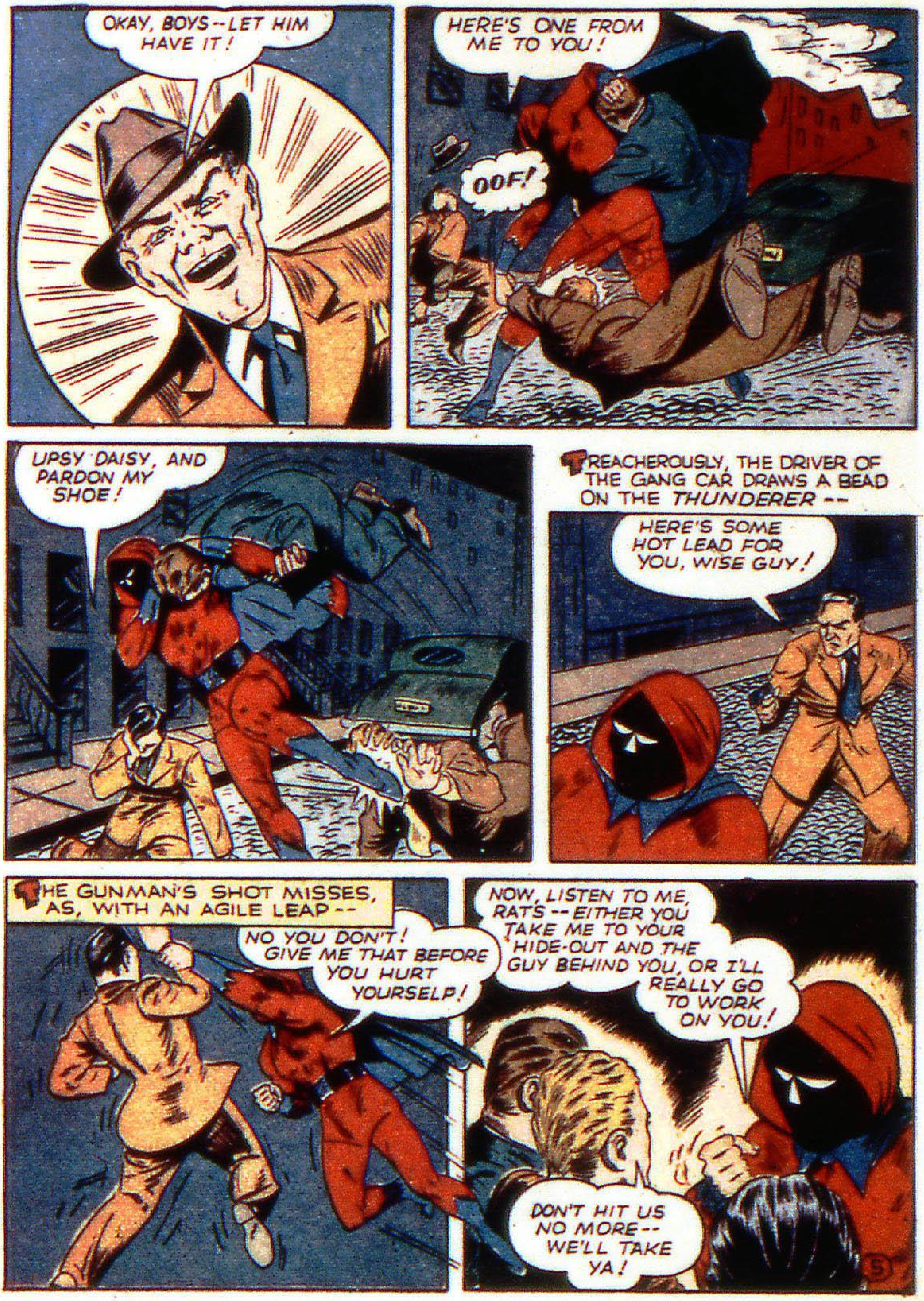

HMM --- THAT CAR! SAW IT PARKED THERE WHEN I CAME IN. I'LL TAG ALONG-WITH IT.

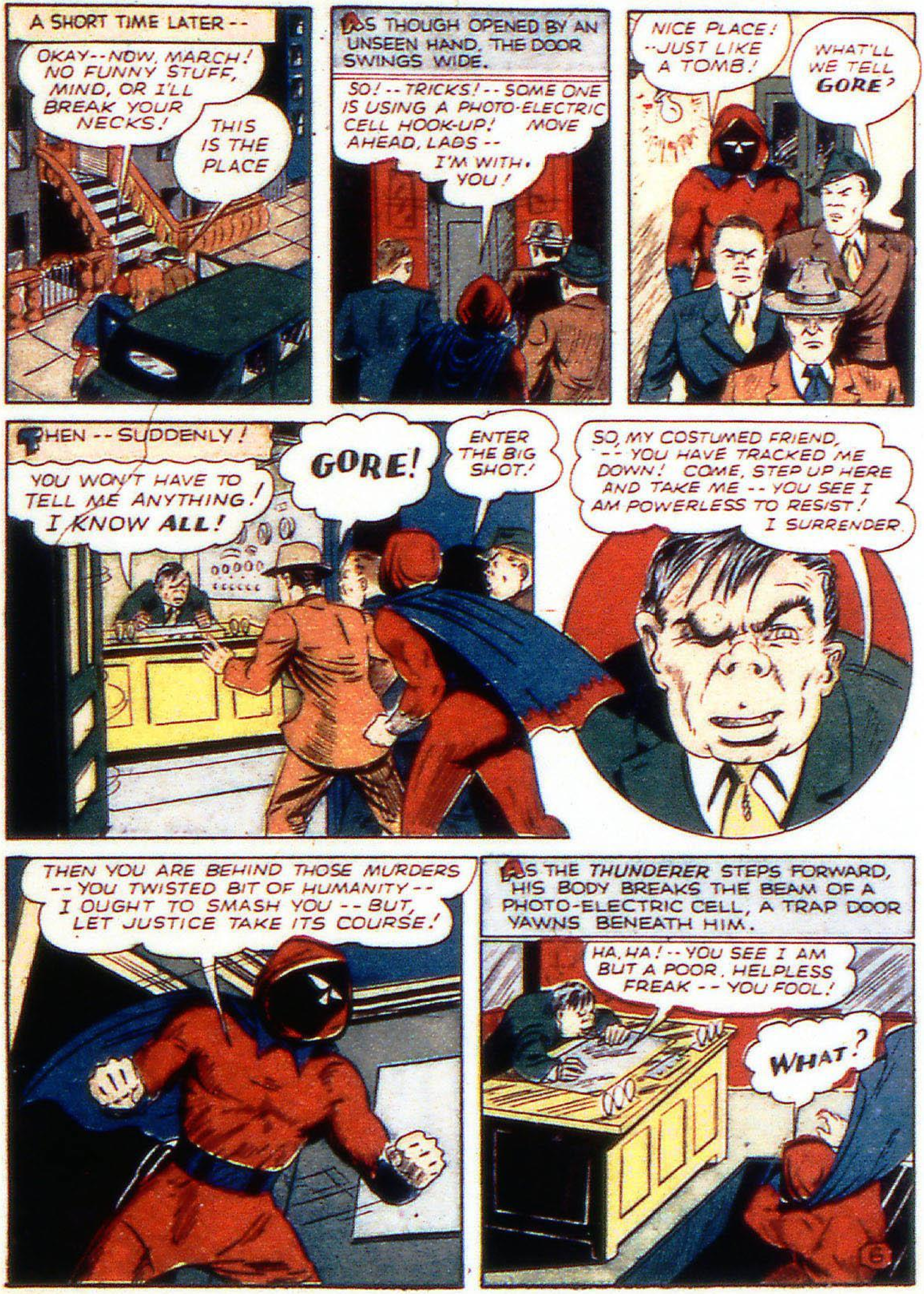

INSIDE THE CAR.
HARRY TALKIN'--YEAH, WE HEARD THE SHOT. SAY--THAT GUN COULDN'T MISS. RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES-- WE'RE ON YOUR WAY NOW!
THAT'LL BE A COOL GRAND APIECE -- --WONDER WHERE HE GETS THE DOUGH!
HE'S RICH!

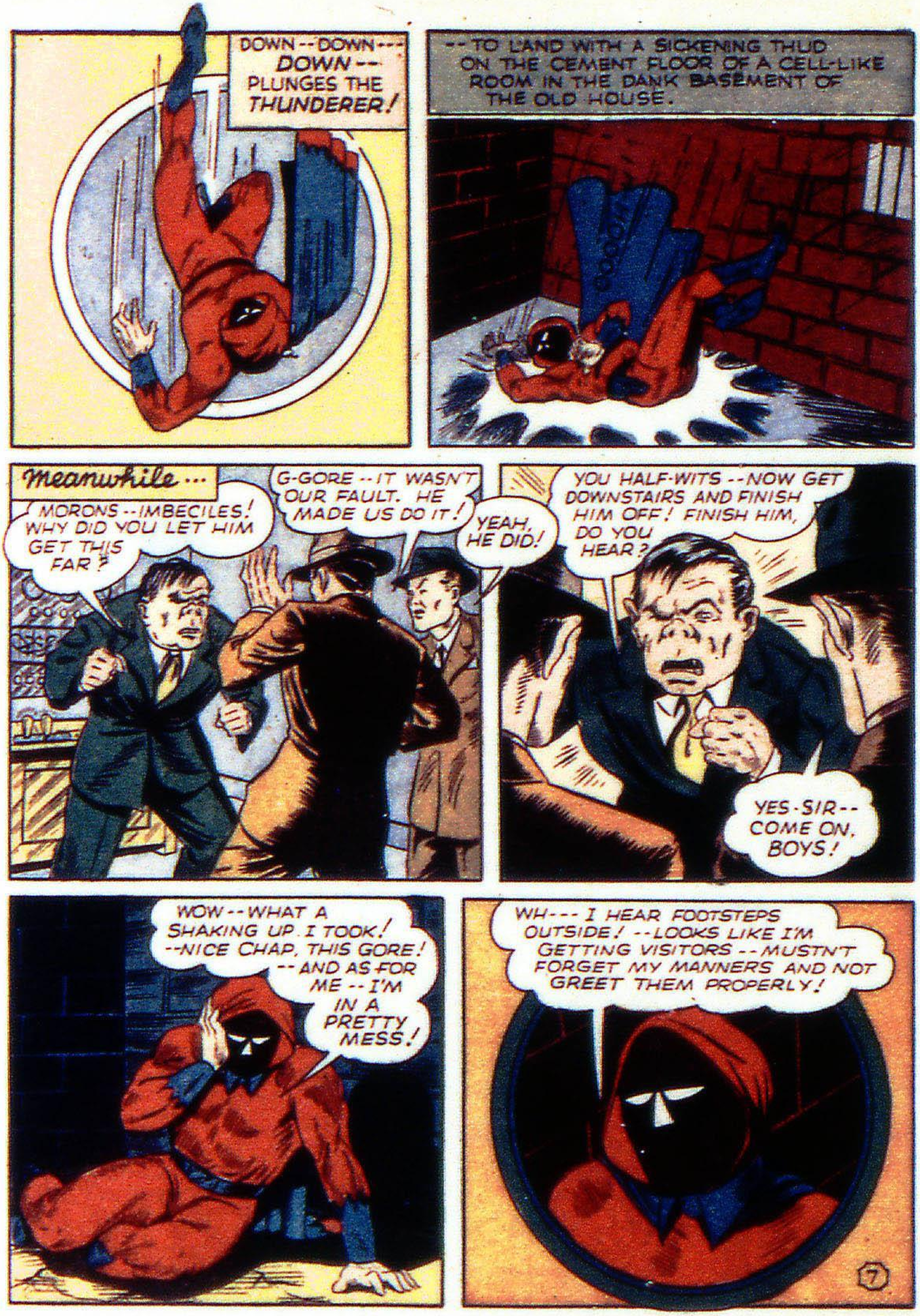

OHO! A TWO-WAY RADIO! IT LOOKS AS IF I GUESSED RIGHT! HE MUST BE REPORTING TO HEADQUARTERS. I'LL LEARN PLENTY TONIGHT!

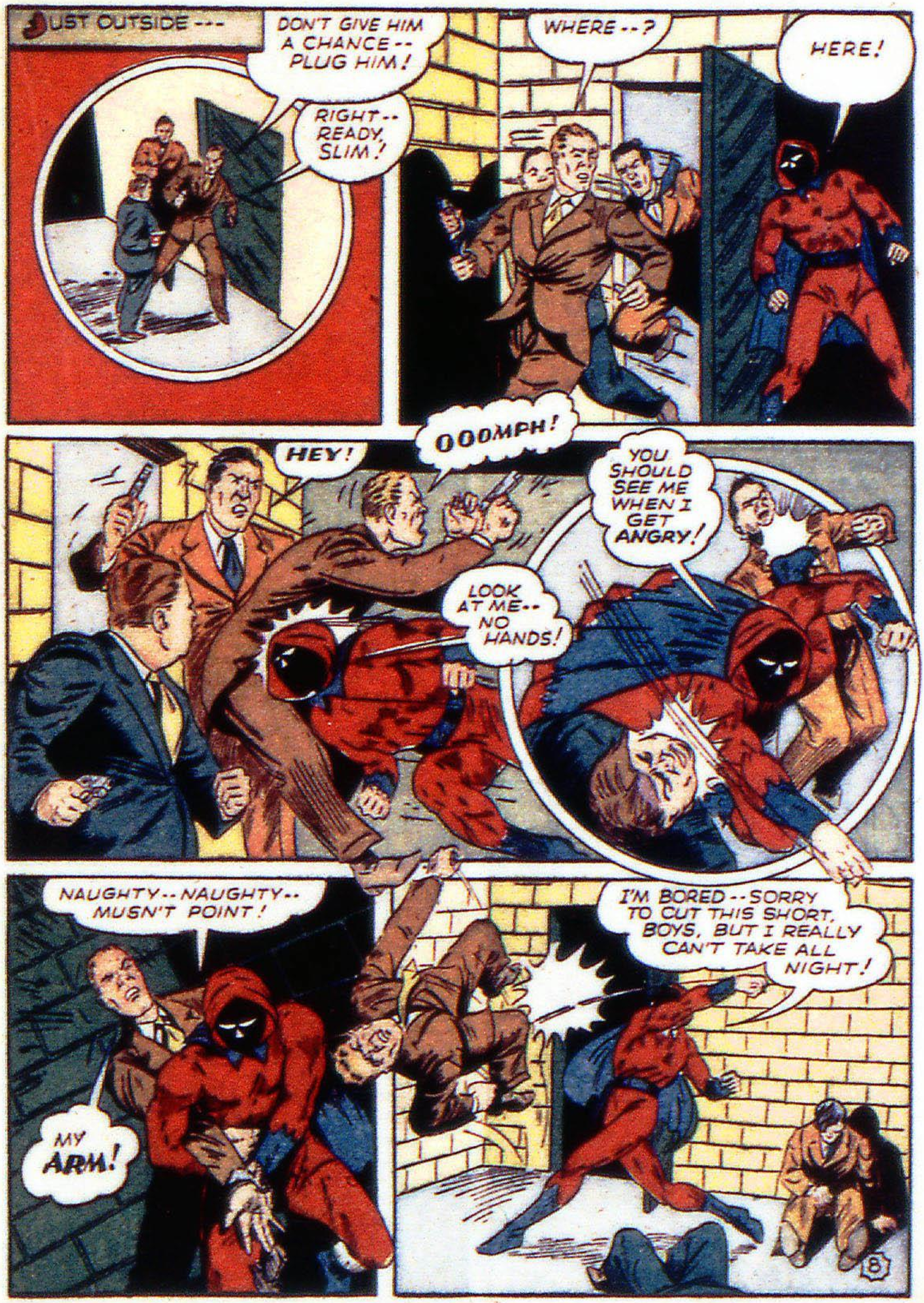

HEY, SLIM! --WE GOT A HITCH-HIKER!
YEAH, MARK. LET'S GIVE HIM THE BUM'S RUSH!
I NEED THE EXERCISE!

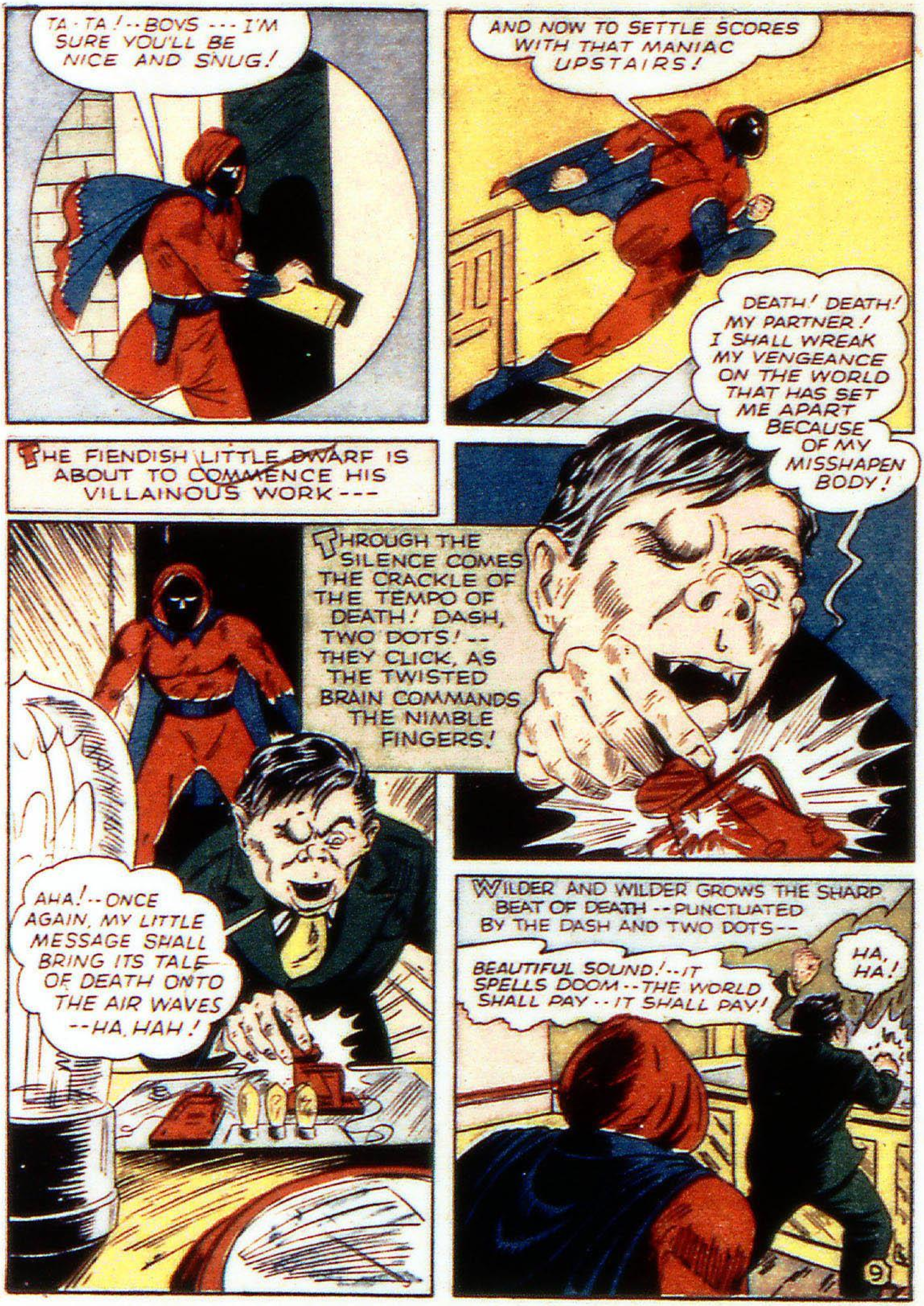

CAN I HELP YOU, GENTLEMEN?
PIPE THE GET-UP!
BROTHER, YOU'RE HEADING FOR A NICE, QUIET HOSPITAL!

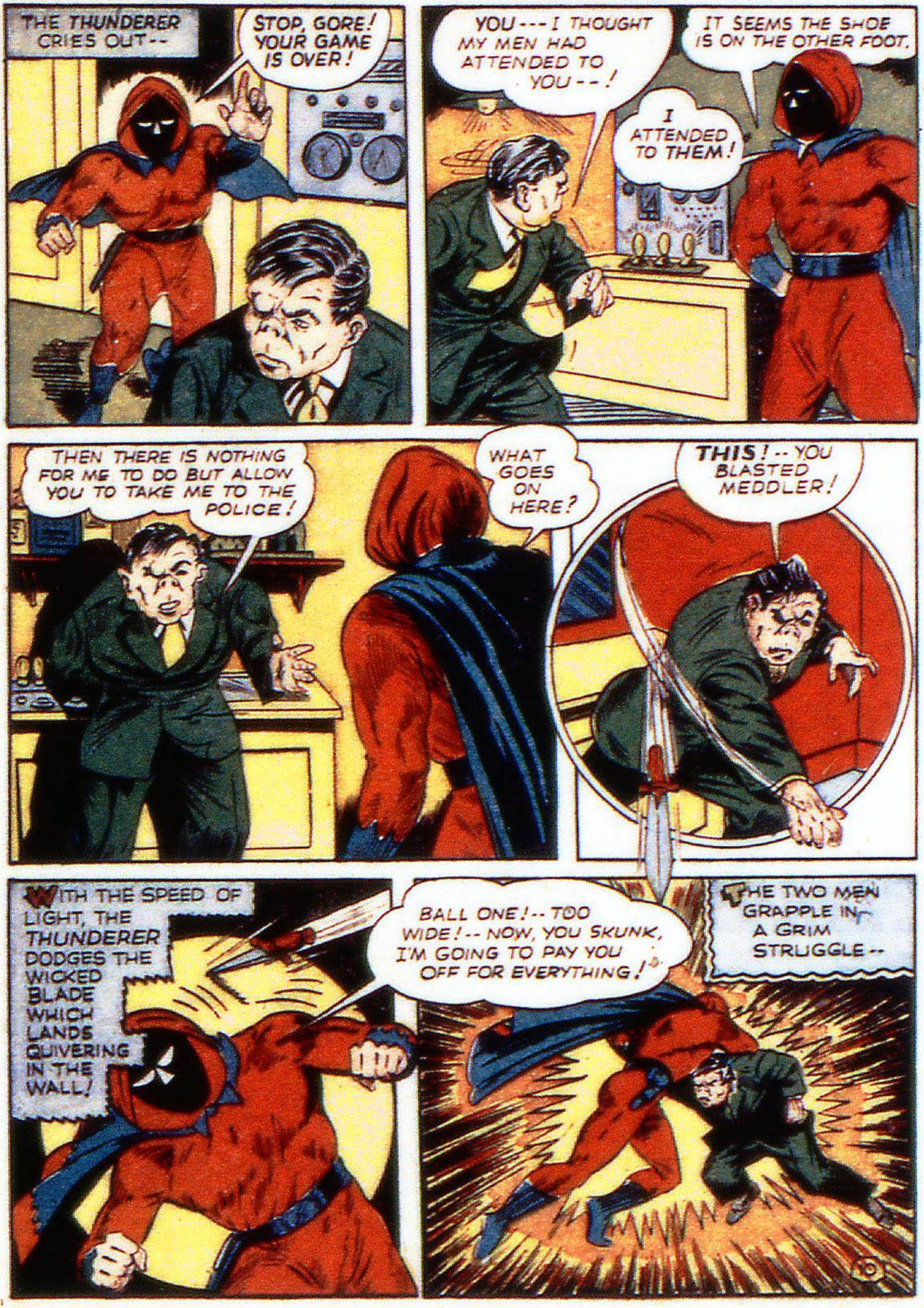

OKAY, BOYS--LET HIM HAVE IT!
HERE'S ONE FROM ME TO YOU!
OOF!
UPSY DAISY, AND PARDON MY SHOE!
TREACHEROUSLY, THE DRIVER OF THE GANG CAR DRAWS A BEAD ON THE *THUNDERER* --
HERE'S SOME HOT LEAD FOR YOU, WISE GUY!
THE GUNMAN'S SHOT MISSES, AS, WITH AN AGILE LEAP --
NO YOU DON'T! GIVE ME THAT BEFORE YOU HURT YOURSELF!
NOW, LISTEN TO ME, RATS -- EITHER YOU TAKE ME TO YOUR HIDE-OUT AND THE GUY BEHIND YOU, OR I'LL REALLY GO TO WORK ON YOU!
DON'T HIT US NO MORE-- WE'LL TAKE YA!
5

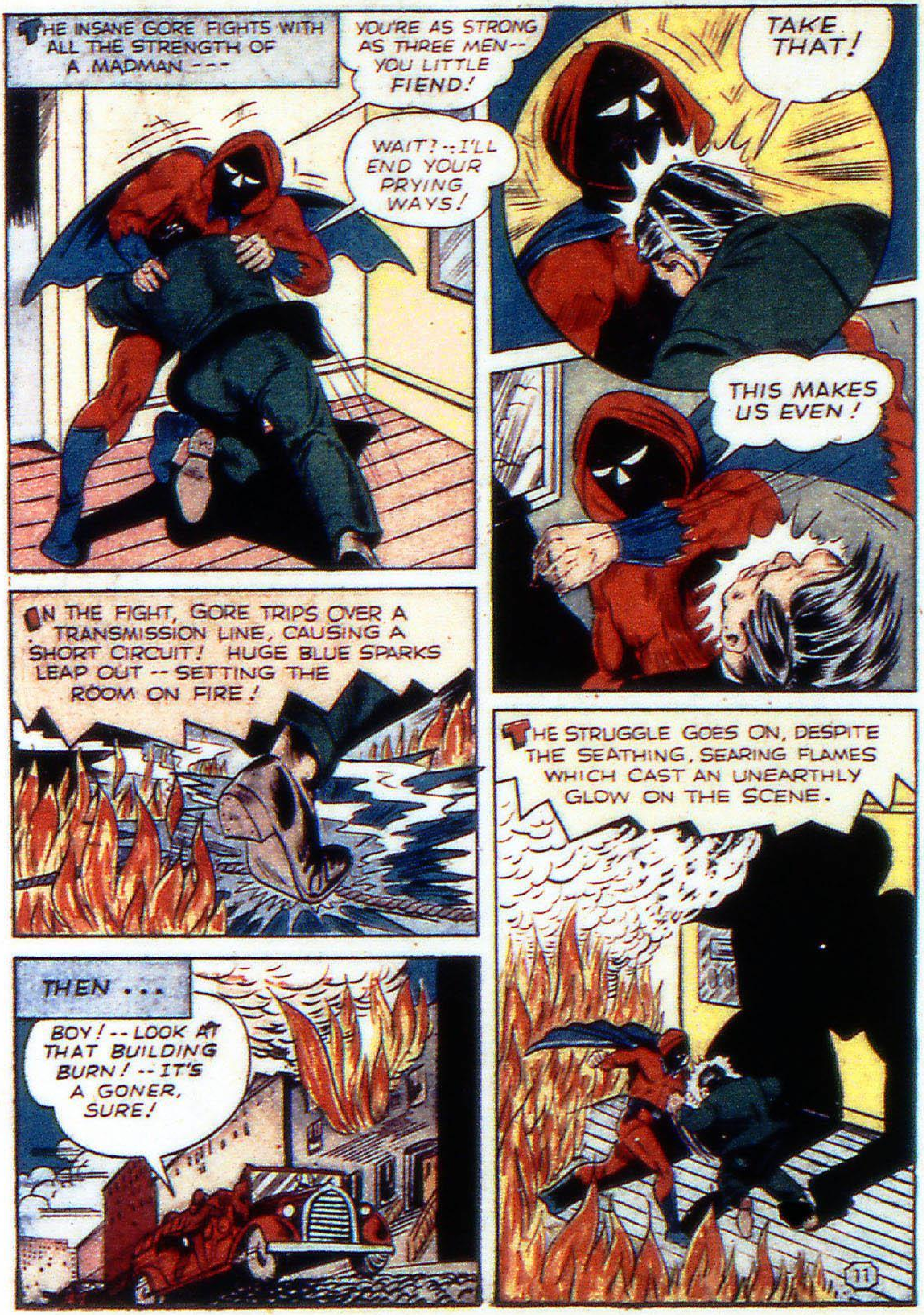

A SHORT TIME LATER --
OKAY--NOW, MARCH! NO FUNNY STUFF, MIND, OR I'LL BREAK YOUR NECKS!
THIS IS THE PLACE
AS THOUGH OPENED BY AN UNSEEN HAND, THE DOOR SWINGS WIDE.
SO! --TRICKS! --SOME ONE IS USING A PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELL HOOK-UP! MOVE AHEAD, LADS -- I'M WITH, YOU!
NICE PLACE! --JUST LIKE A TOMB!
WHAT'LL WE TELL GORE?
THEN -- SUDDENLY!
YOU WON'T HAVE TO TELL ME ANYTHING! I KNOW ALL!
GORE!
ENTER THE BIG SHOT!
SO, MY COSTUMED FRIEND, -- YOU HAVE TRACKED ME DOWN! COME, STEP UP HERE AND TAKE ME -- YOU SEE I AM POWERLESS TO RESIST! I SURRENDER
THEN YOU ARE BEHIND THOSE MURDERS -- YOU TWISTED BIT OF HUMANITY -- I OUGHT TO SMASH YOU -- BUT, LET JUSTICE TAKE ITS COURSE!
AS THE THUNDERER STEPS FORWARD, HIS BODY BREAKS THE BEAM OF A PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELL, A TRAP DOOR YAWNS BENEATH HIM.
HA, HA! --YOU SEE I AM BUT A POOR, HELPLESS FREAK -- YOU FOOL!
WHAT?
6

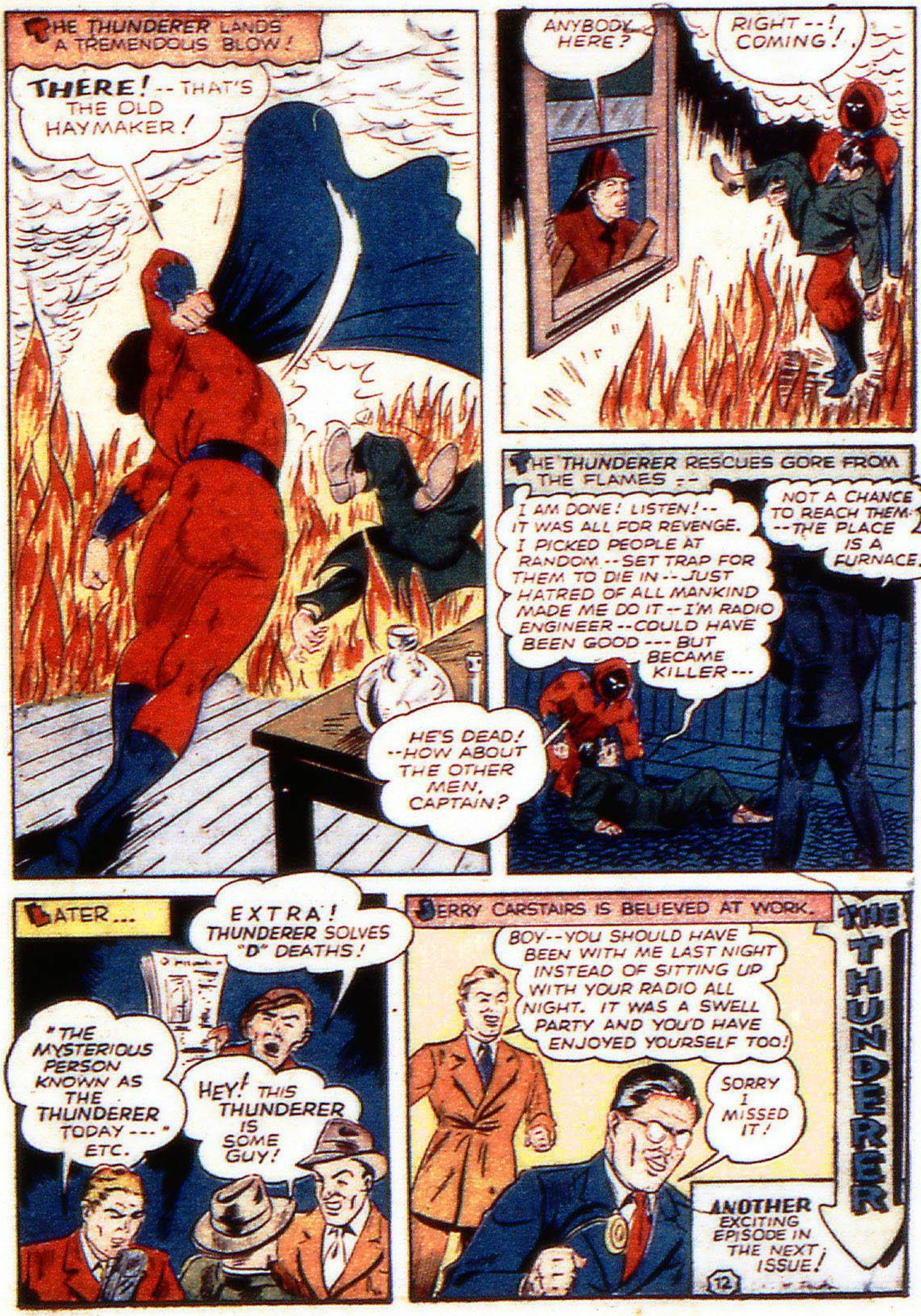

DOWN--DOWN--- DOWN-- PLUNGES THE THUNDERER!
--TO LAND WITH A SICKENING THUD ON THE CEMENT FLOOR OF A CELL-LIKE ROOM IN THE DANK BASEMENT OF THE OLD HOUSE.
Meanwhile...
MORONS--IMBECILES! WHY DID YOU LET HIM GET THIS FAR?
G-GORE--IT WASN'T OUR FAULT. HE MADE US DO IT!
YEAH, HE DID!
YOU HALF-WITS--NOW GET DOWNSTAIRS AND FINISH HIM OFF! FINISH HIM, DO YOU HEAR?
YES-SIR-- COME ON, BOYS!
WOW--WHAT A SHAKING UP I TOOK! --NICE CHAP, THIS GORE! --AND AS FOR ME--I'M IN A PRETTY MESS!
WH--- I HEAR FOOTSTEPS OUTSIDE! --LOOKS LIKE I'M GETTING VISITORS--MUSTN'T FORGET MY MANNERS AND NOT GREET THEM PROPERLY!


JUST OUTSIDE ---
DON'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE -- PLUG HIM!
RIGHT -- READY, SLIM!
WHERE --?
HERE!
HEY!
OOOMPH!
LOOK AT ME -- NO HANDS!
YOU SHOULD SEE ME WHEN I GET ANGRY!
NAUGHTY -- NAUGHTY -- MUSN'T POINT!
MY ARM!
I'M BORED -- SORRY TO CUT THIS SHORT, BOYS, BUT I REALLY CAN'T TAKE ALL NIGHT!


TA-TA!--BOYS---I'M SURE YOU'LL BE NICE AND SNUG!
AND NOW TO SETTLE SCORES WITH THAT MANIAC UPSTAIRS!
THE FIENDISH LITTLE DWARF IS ABOUT TO COMMENCE HIS VILLAINOUS WORK---
DEATH! DEATH! MY PARTNER! I SHALL WREAK MY VENGEANCE ON THE WORLD THAT HAS SET ME APART BECAUSE OF MY MISSHAPEN BODY!
THROUGH THE SILENCE COMES THE CRACKLE OF THE TEMPO OF DEATH! DASH, TWO DOTS!--THEY CLICK, AS THE TWISTED BRAIN COMMANDS THE NIMBLE FINGERS!
AHA!--ONCE AGAIN, MY LITTLE MESSAGE SHALL BRING ITS TALE OF DEATH ONTO THE AIR WAVES--HA, HAH!
WILDER AND WILDER GROWS THE SHARP BEAT OF DEATH--PUNCTUATED BY THE DASH AND TWO DOTS--
BEAUTIFUL SOUND!--IT SPELLS DOOM--THE WORLD SHALL PAY--IT SHALL PAY!
HA, HA!


THE THUNDERER CRIES OUT--
STOP, GORE! YOUR GAME IS OVER!
YOU---I THOUGHT MY MEN HAD ATTENDED TO YOU--!
IT SEEMS THE SHOE IS ON THE OTHER FOOT.
I ATTENDED TO THEM!
THEN THERE IS NOTHING FOR ME TO DO BUT ALLOW YOU TO TAKE ME TO THE POLICE!
WHAT GOES ON HERE?
THIS!--YOU BLASTED MEDDLER!
WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT, THE THUNDERER DODGES THE WICKED BLADE WHICH LANDS QUIVERING IN THE WALL!
BALL ONE!--TOO WIDE!--NOW, YOU SKUNK, I'M GOING TO PAY YOU OFF FOR EVERYTHING!
THE TWO MEN GRAPPLE IN A GRIM STRUGGLE--


THE INSANE GORE FIGHTS WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF A MADMAN ---
YOU'RE AS STRONG AS THREE MEN -- YOU LITTLE FIEND!
WAIT? -- I'LL END YOUR PRYING WAYS!
TAKE THAT!
THIS MAKES US EVEN!
IN THE FIGHT, GORE TRIPS OVER A TRANSMISSION LINE, CAUSING A SHORT CIRCUIT! HUGE BLUE SPARKS LEAP OUT -- SETTING THE ROOM ON FIRE!
THEN ...
BOY! -- LOOK AT THAT BUILDING BURN! -- IT'S A GONER, SURE!
THE STRUGGLE GOES ON, DESPITE THE SEATHING, SEARING FLAMES WHICH CAST AN UNEARTHLY GLOW ON THE SCENE.


THE THUNDERER LANDS A TREMENDOUS BLOW!
THERE! -- THAT'S THE OLD HAYMAKER!
ANYBODY HERE?
RIGHT --! COMING!
THE THUNDERER RESCUES GORE FROM THE FLAMES --
I AM DONE! LISTEN! -- IT WAS ALL FOR REVENGE. I PICKED PEOPLE AT RANDOM -- SET TRAP FOR THEM TO DIE IN -- JUST HATRED OF ALL MANKIND MADE ME DO IT -- I'M RADIO ENGINEER -- COULD HAVE BEEN GOOD --- BUT BECAME KILLER ---
NOT A CHANCE TO REACH THEM -- THE PLACE IS A FURNACE!
HE'S DEAD! -- HOW ABOUT THE OTHER MEN, CAPTAIN?
LATER...
EXTRA! THUNDERER SOLVES "D" DEATHS!
"THE MYSTERIOUS PERSON KNOWN AS THE THUNDERER TODAY ---" ETC.
HEY! THIS THUNDERER IS SOME GUY!
JERRY CARSTAIRS IS BELIEVED AT WORK.
BOY -- YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN WITH ME LAST NIGHT INSTEAD OF SITTING UP WITH YOUR RADIO ALL NIGHT. IT WAS A SWELL PARTY AND YOU'D HAVE ENJOYED YOURSELF TOO!
SORRY I MISSED IT!
THE THUNDERER
ANOTHER EXCITING EPISODE IN THE NEXT ISSUE!
12

# DANNY MAKES GOOD

## THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENED— BUT, THEN, IT ALWAYS DID WHEN DYNAMIC DAN WENT INTO ACTION!

DAN CARMODY WAS VERY STUBBORN for a young man of twenty-two. Very stubborn. He wouldn't listen to anyone's advice. When he was a little kid, he was the kind who didn't believe that fire burned until he tried it. Even then he wouldn't admit it.

But Danny grew up with fine broad shoulders, a slim waist, crinkly brown hair and bright, steely gray eyes. And *plenty* stubborn.

The young ladies heaved many longing sighs in his general direction, but young Carmody didn't pay them the slightest heed. One time, when he played a keen second base for the local High School, Danny did fall captive to a gal's charms. Her name was Lucy. She was pretty, pert and gay. The belle of the High School campus.

It seemed that Lucy had promised to go to the Senior Prom with Dan. The Saturday afternoon of the prom was the day of the county championship game with Stockbridge High. It turned out to be a sweet game. One of those tight pitcher's battles which could go either way. It went the other way, principally because Dan came in too fast for a slow rolling bounder. He overshot the ball and the winning run came across home plate.

He felt pretty badly about that. But to make matters worse, Lucy broke her date with him and went to the prom with a crew-hair cutted freshman from Princeton who happened to be staying in town for a short vacation. This cut young Carmody to the very depths of his stubborn soul. From that day on he had nothing to do with girls.

Well, what started this whole story was a pet ambition of Danny's. Ever since he was a little kid Dan had fooled around with cameras. It was logical that as he grew older he should want to make his living with a camera. So he decided to become a newspaper photographer. Not that Danny would have been satisfied with a job on the local weekly paper, The Clarion. Oh no, he wanted to go to New York and become a big time lens man on one of the metropolitan dailies.

Danny went ahead with the task of making himself a crackerjack photographer. He studied and practised. The boy was good. He could handle his Leica with the ease and skill of a master artist.

Finally, one day, Danny announced to the boys gathered around the juke box at Walt's diner, "I'm off to New York. I'm going to get a newspaper job!" For the four years since Dan had graduated from High School, he'd worked at everything from garage mechanic to book salesman.

Big Clayton stood up to his full six feet one. He was an inch bigger than Danny and weighed twenty pounds more.

"Carmody," snarled Ed. "I think you're a phoney and a four flusher." Ed and Dan never did get along with each other.

THE WORDS HAD SCARCELY come out of Clayton's mouth when Dan's quick left jab pushed them right back! It was a nice left hand punch. A silly grin crossed Clayton's face. Dan's right cross was a honey. There was a sharp crack as he connected and Big Ed slipped to the floor.

Dan rubbed his knuckles. "When he comes to, tell that big dope there's more where that came from if he *wants* it!"

Then Dan shook with the boys and amid a chorus of farewells he hiked to the station. With a melancholy wail, the whistle of the four-ten announced its departure from Waynesville with Dan aboard.

He arrived in New York some six hours later, a little saddle weary from sitting up all night in the coach. He freshened up in the washroom at Grand Central Terminal. He carefully unpacked his precious camera from the suit case and slung it over his shoulder by its carrying strap. Then he checked the battered suitcase in the Terminal's baggage room.

Dan learned two things that morning. The first was that nobody seemed to want a good photographer. Especially the newspapers. The second that all girls weren't like the little snip, Lucy.

Peggy Moran was a receptionist at the Globe, one of New York's more exciting picture newspapers. She looked up from her switchboard to see a stalwart, belligerent lad standing in front of her with a Leica camera strapped over his shoulder. It was Danny.

"Yes?" asked Peggy.

"I'm a photographer," said Dan. "I want a job."

"How unusual. Well laddy, we aren't having any today."

"Look miss," came the tense voice of young Mr. Carmody, "do you do the hiring?"

"No, of course not," snapped Peggy.

"Then shut up." Danny turned on his heel and started to stalk out.

He heard high heels clicking after him. An irate finger poked him in the back. Danny turned around to gaze into a pair of blazing blue eyes.

"Listen mister," snarled Peggy. "No one talks to me that way. No one!"

Somehow, despite himself, Danny liked this girl. She was full of fight. Danny enjoyed that. He grinned.

Now, Danny's grin was something to melt a heart of stone, and Peggy didn't have one made of that unyielding substance. Hers was a very tender heart. It melted.

"Okay, lady," smiled Danny, "I apologize. I rode all night to get to this town and I'm a little cranky. Also, I need a job something fierce."

"I'll see what I can do," Peggy said. She liked this handsome stranger.

She spoke into the phone on her desk. She listened. She spoke again and then hung up the receiver.

"He says no. That's Mr. Gilbert, the Managing Editor. He says he doesn't want any photographers. He says that if you brought him pictures of the Pace National Bank being held up by some yeggs, he might consider you. He's a nasty man." She smiled.

"Well, goodbye lady." Danny was about to walk out again. "By the way, my name is Dan Carmody."

"Mine is Peg Moran."

"I'll see you when I bring in those holdup pictures." Dan went down the hall and out through the revolving door.

"Which will be never," thought Peggy. "That old crumb Gilbert."

Danny had a tough day. He heard "no" from so many places that he didn't believe any one knew how to say "yes." It was afternoon. The clock in a steeple somewhere, chimed twice. Danny was hungry. He hadn't eaten anything all day except a couple of hamburgers.

He walked over to a little park and plumped dejectedly on a bench. Looking across the street he saw a graceful building. As though mocking him, the words "Pace National Bank" were engraved in the white marble facade.

Danny stared at it for a minute. "Nuts!" he murmured.

BUT AS HE STARED, something happened. A big, black Sedan pulled up to the bank and six men spewed out of it. Like a well trained squad of soldiers, four men deployed themselves on the steps of the bank. Two others raced inside. Danny's mouth dropped open.

Guns glinted in the hands of the men on the steps. A woman screamed. The traffic cop came running, tugging at his 38. Guns spit lead. The cop went down and then Danny leaped into action!

He unlimbered his camera. He raced into the middle of the street clicking the shutter as fast as he could. The two men hurtled out of the bank doors as the alarm shrieked. Danny caught a quick glimpse of them with the canvas money sacks in their hands. He pointed the Leica at them and snapped.

One of the thugs saw him. His gat spit at Dan. The hot breath of a bullet scorched Danny's cheek. Then he must have gone crazy because no sane man would do what he did next. Or maybe it was that stubborn nature of his coming to the surface. He leaped right at the gun. His fist splattered the hoodlum's nose flat.

Another gunman tried to get in a shot. He did. But Danny had swung his first opponent directly in front of him as a shield. The gunman's bullet hit his henchman. Then everything was lost in a wild flurry of fists, nightsticks, guns, screams and groans. The street swarmed with bluecoats as radio cars came squealing to the scene. It was all over. There were a few shots when a stupid crook tried to shoot it out with twenty cops. He lost.

Danny didn't waste a second. He spoke to a burly blue coat. In a few seconds Dan was in a police car whose howling siren split traffic like a hot knife through butter.

Three minutes later a wild, battered, disheveled Danny clutching his precious camera, was standing in front of Peg Moran.

"Call Mr. Gilbert, Peggy," he shouted. "I've got pictures of the Pace National Bank being held up!"

Peggy called. Quicker than it takes to tell, a burly man smoking a battered cigar came running out of the office marked "City Room." It was Mr. Gilbert. He was plenty excited. The managing editor seized Dan by the arm.

"Mister," he roared, "If this is a joke . . ." then he started again, "if you've got those pictures I'll give you *anything!*"

"Let me get these developed. "You'll get an *eyeful.*" Dan's voice was confident.

EVERYBODY KNOWS WHAT HAPPENED after that. How the Globe scooped the City with those pictures. They were honeys! The story of Dan Carmody doesn't need re-telling. He went to Spain in 1936 and then to China to bring some of the greatest pictures that ever graced a newspaper. No one will ever forget the dramatic snaps he made of the evacuation of Dunkirk.

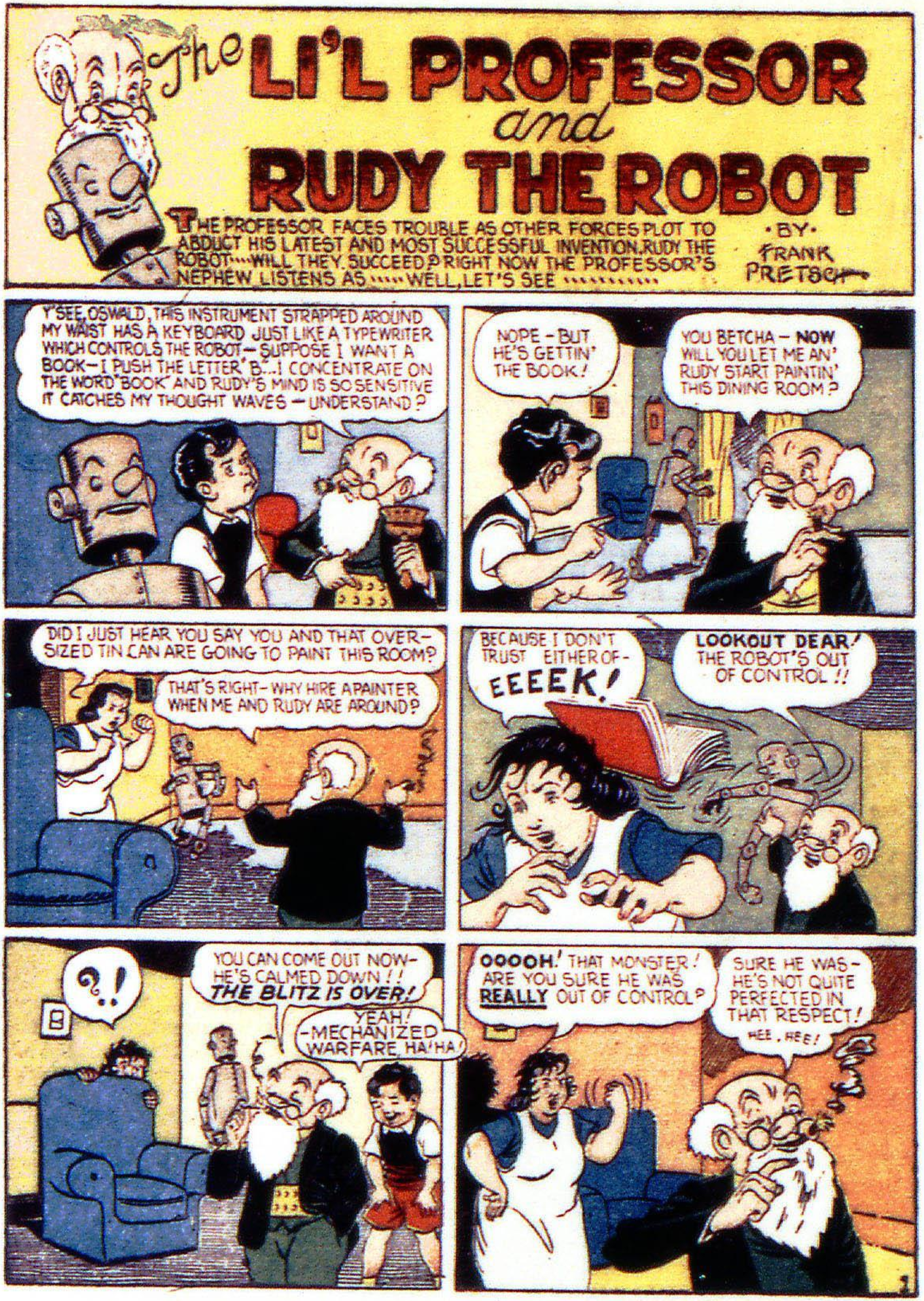
What hasn't become such common knowledge is that the pretty blue-eyed Mrs. Carmody was once the receptionist at the Globe!

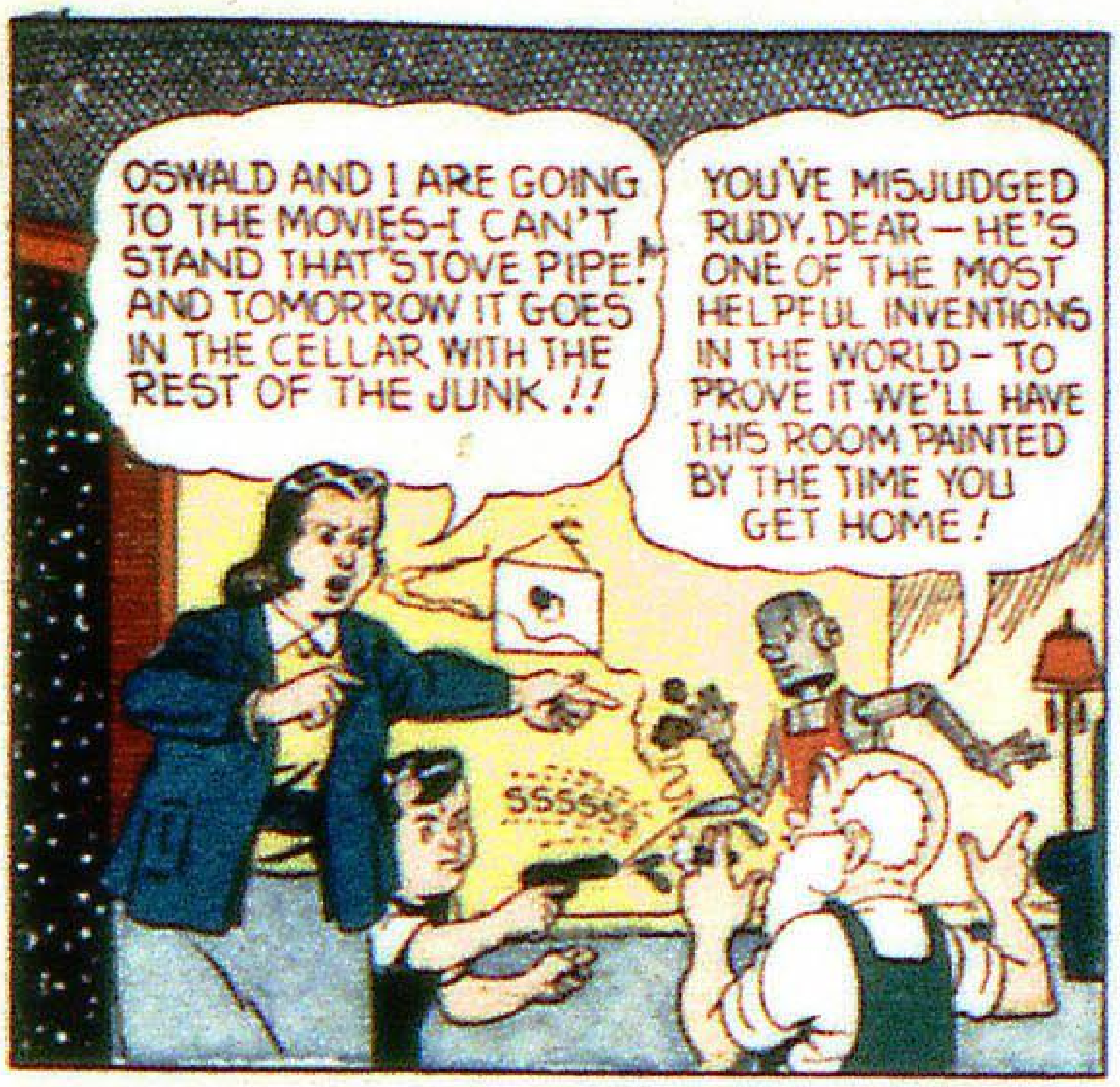
THE END

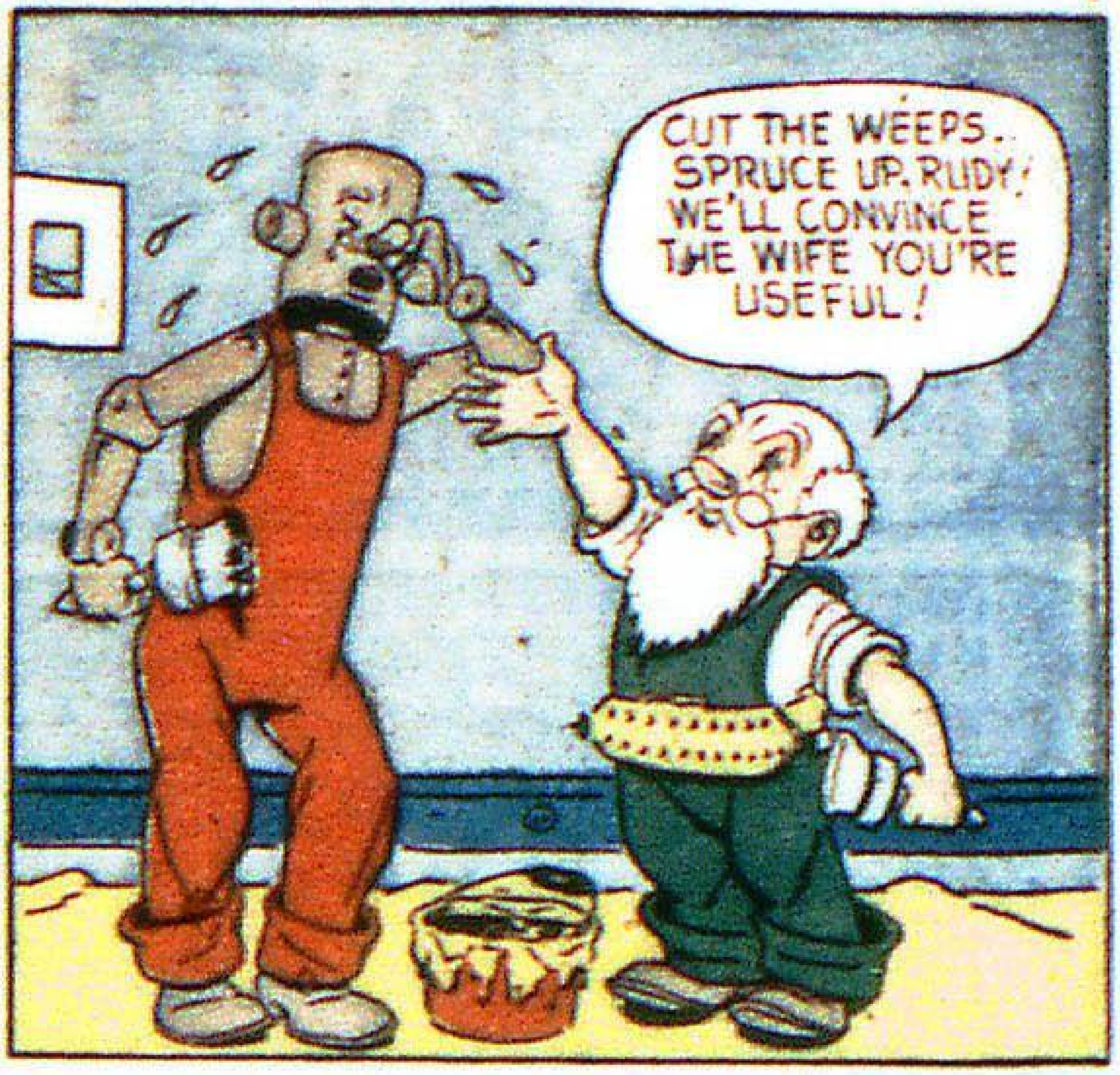
# The LI'L PROFESSOR and RUDY THE ROBOT

THE PROFESSOR FACES TROUBLE AS OTHER FORCES PLOT TO ABDUCT HIS LATEST AND MOST SUCCESSFUL INVENTION, RUDY THE ROBOT..... WILL THEY SUCCEED? RIGHT NOW THE PROFESSOR'S NEPHEW LISTENS AS ..... WELL, LET'S SEE ..........

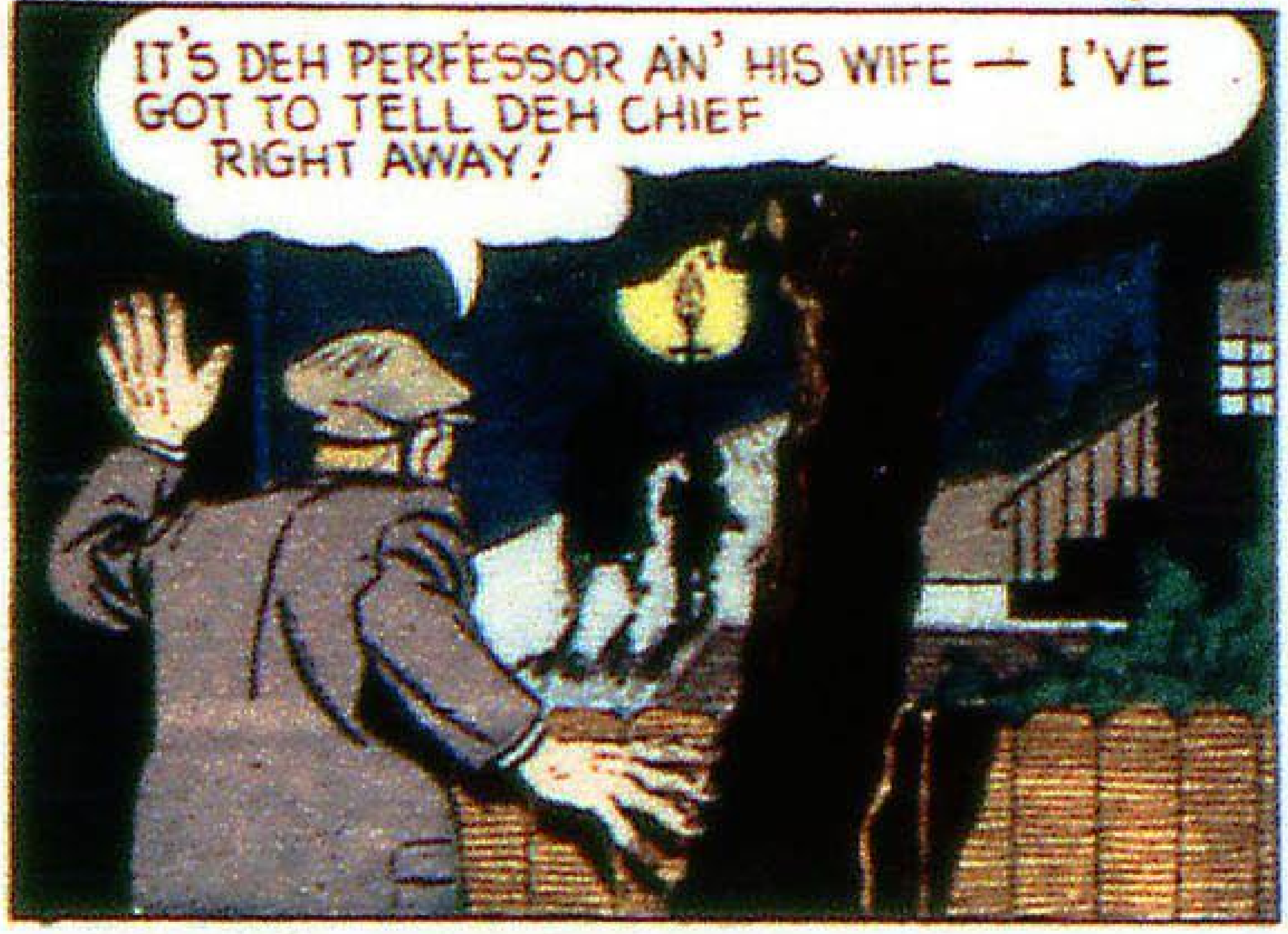
·BY·
FRANK PRETSCH

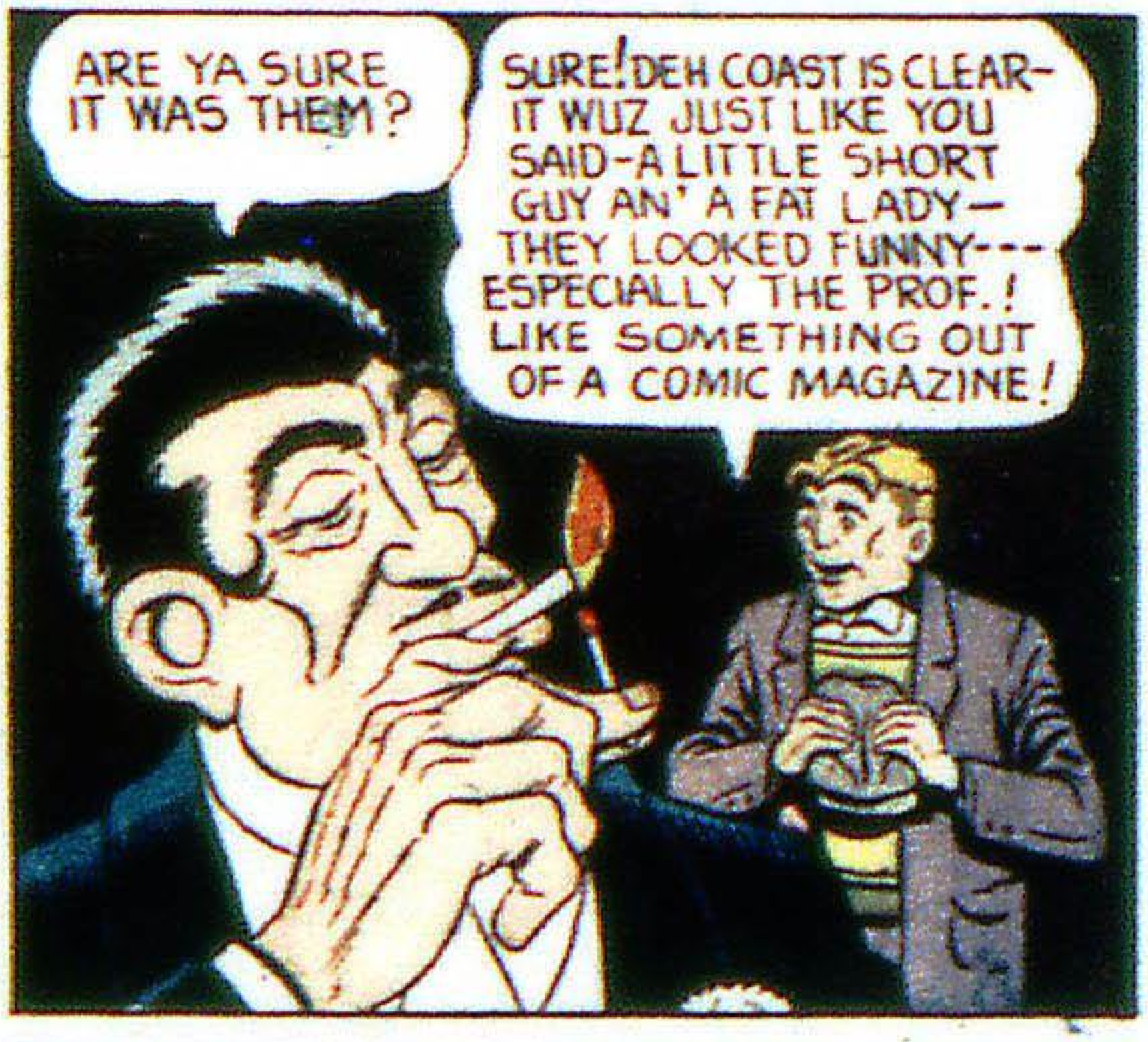

Y'SEE, OSWALD, THIS INSTRUMENT STRAPPED AROUND MY WAIST HAS A KEYBOARD JUST LIKE A TYPEWRITER WHICH CONTROLS THE ROBOT— SUPPOSE I WANT A BOOK— I PUSH THE LETTER "B"... I CONCENTRATE ON THE WORD "BOOK" AND RUDY'S MIND IS SO SENSITIVE IT CATCHES MY THOUGHT WAVES — UNDERSTAND?
NOPE — BUT HE'S GETTIN' THE BOOK!
YOU BETCHA — NOW WILL YOU LET ME AN' RUDY START PAINTIN' THIS DINING ROOM?
DID I JUST HEAR YOU SAY YOU AND THAT OVER-SIZED TIN CAN ARE GOING TO PAINT THIS ROOM?
THAT'S RIGHT— WHY HIRE A PAINTER WHEN ME AND RUDY ARE AROUND?
BECAUSE I DON'T TRUST EITHER OF— EEEEK!
LOOKOUT DEAR! THE ROBOT'S OUT OF CONTROL!!
?!
B
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW— HE'S CALMED DOWN!! THE BLITZ IS OVER!
YEAH! —MECHANIZED WARFARE HA! HA!
OOOOH! THAT MONSTER! ARE YOU SURE HE WAS REALLY OUT OF CONTROL?
SURE HE WAS— HE'S NOT QUITE PERFECTED IN THAT RESPECT!
HEE, HEE!

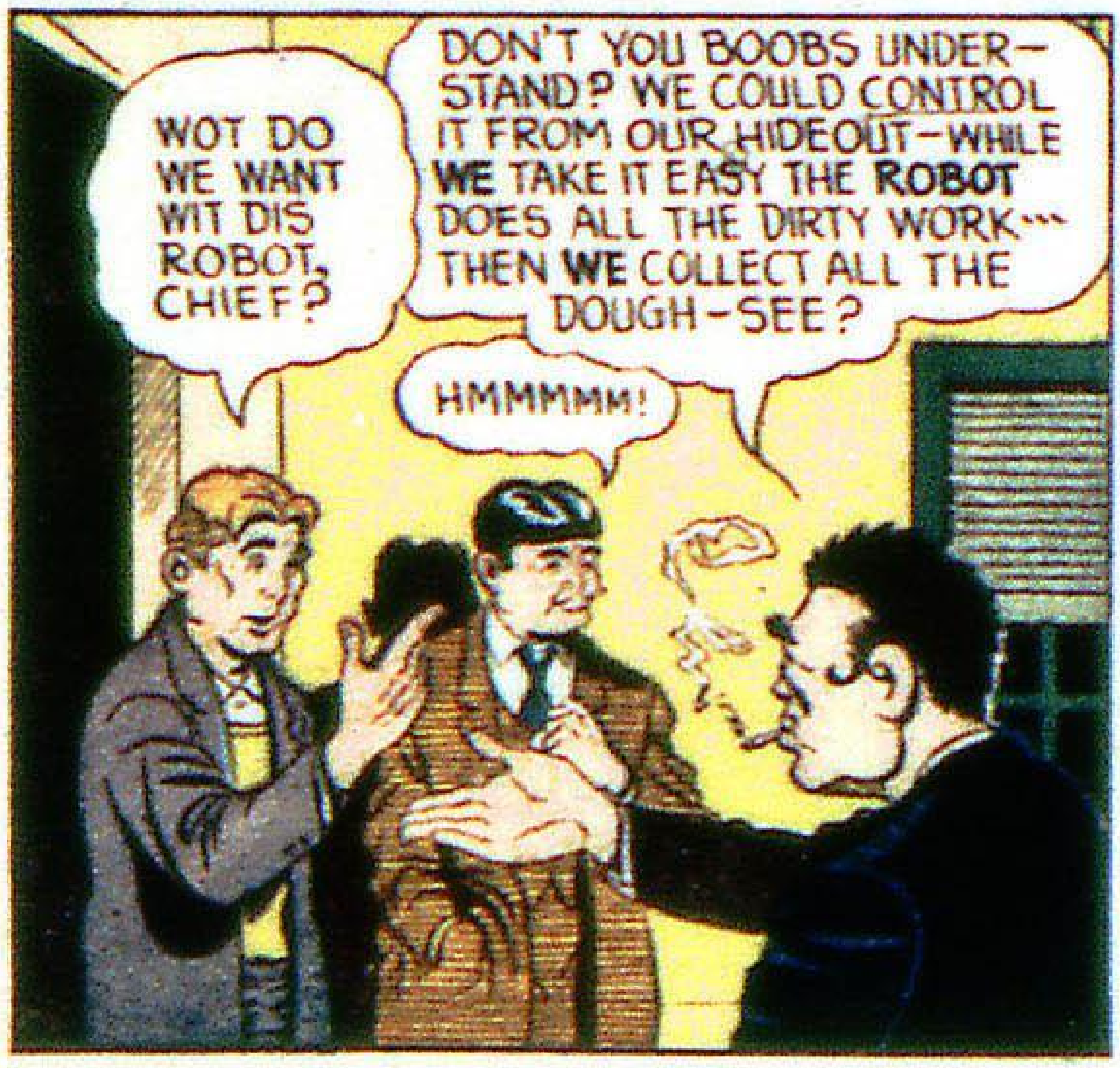

OSWALD AND I ARE GOING TO THE MOVIES-I CAN'T STAND THAT STOVE PIPE! AND TOMORROW IT GOES IN THE CELLAR WITH THE REST OF THE JUNK !!
YOU'VE MISJUDGED RUDY, DEAR — HE'S ONE OF THE MOST HELPFUL INVENTIONS IN THE WORLD — TO PROVE IT WE'LL HAVE THIS ROOM PAINTED BY THE TIME YOU GET HOME!
SSSSSS

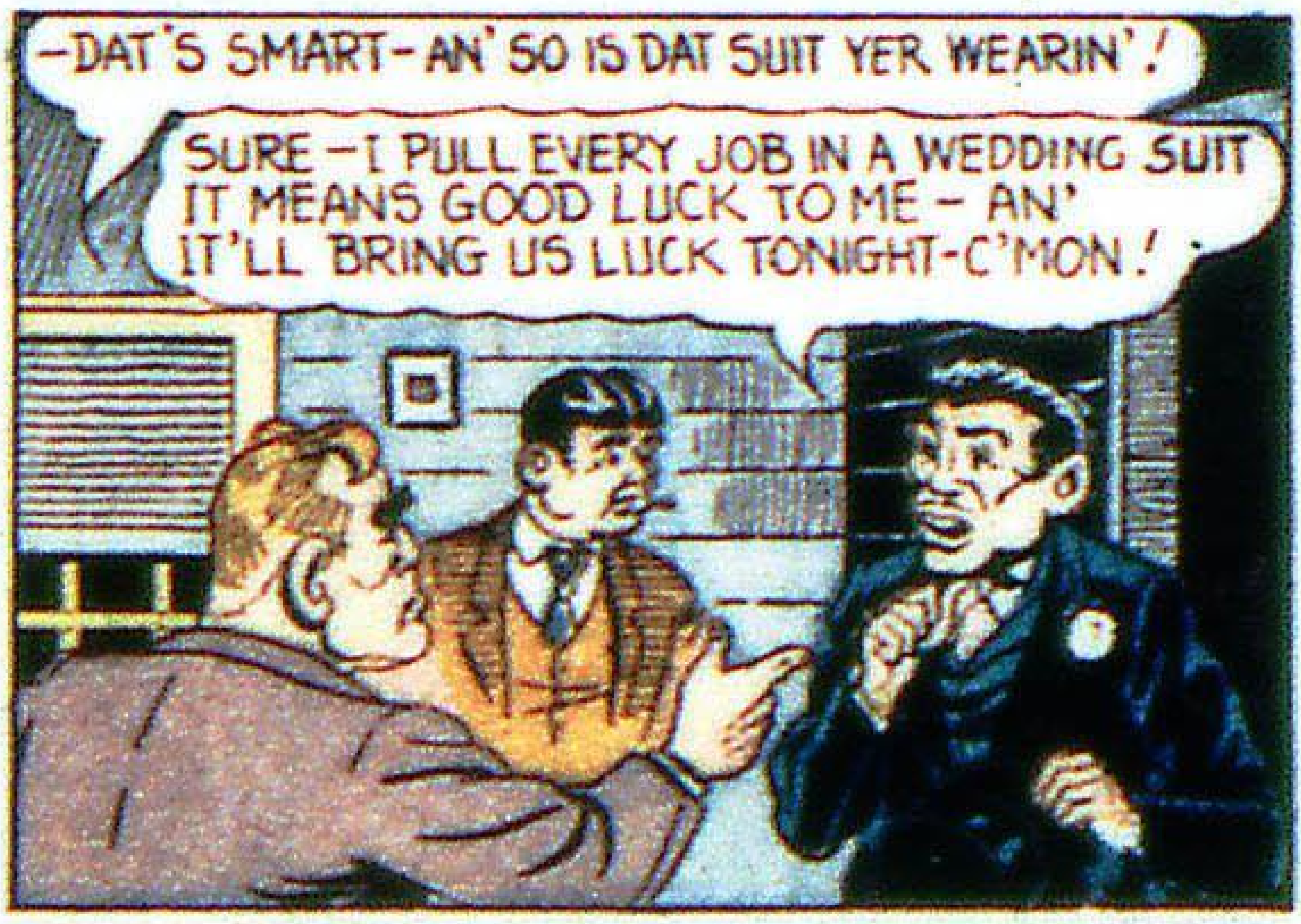

CUT THE WEEPS. SPRUCE UP, RUDY! WE'LL CONVINCE THE WIFE YOU'RE USEFUL!

— AND AS THE PROFESSOR'S WIFE AND LITTLE OSWALD LEAVE THE HOUSE .......

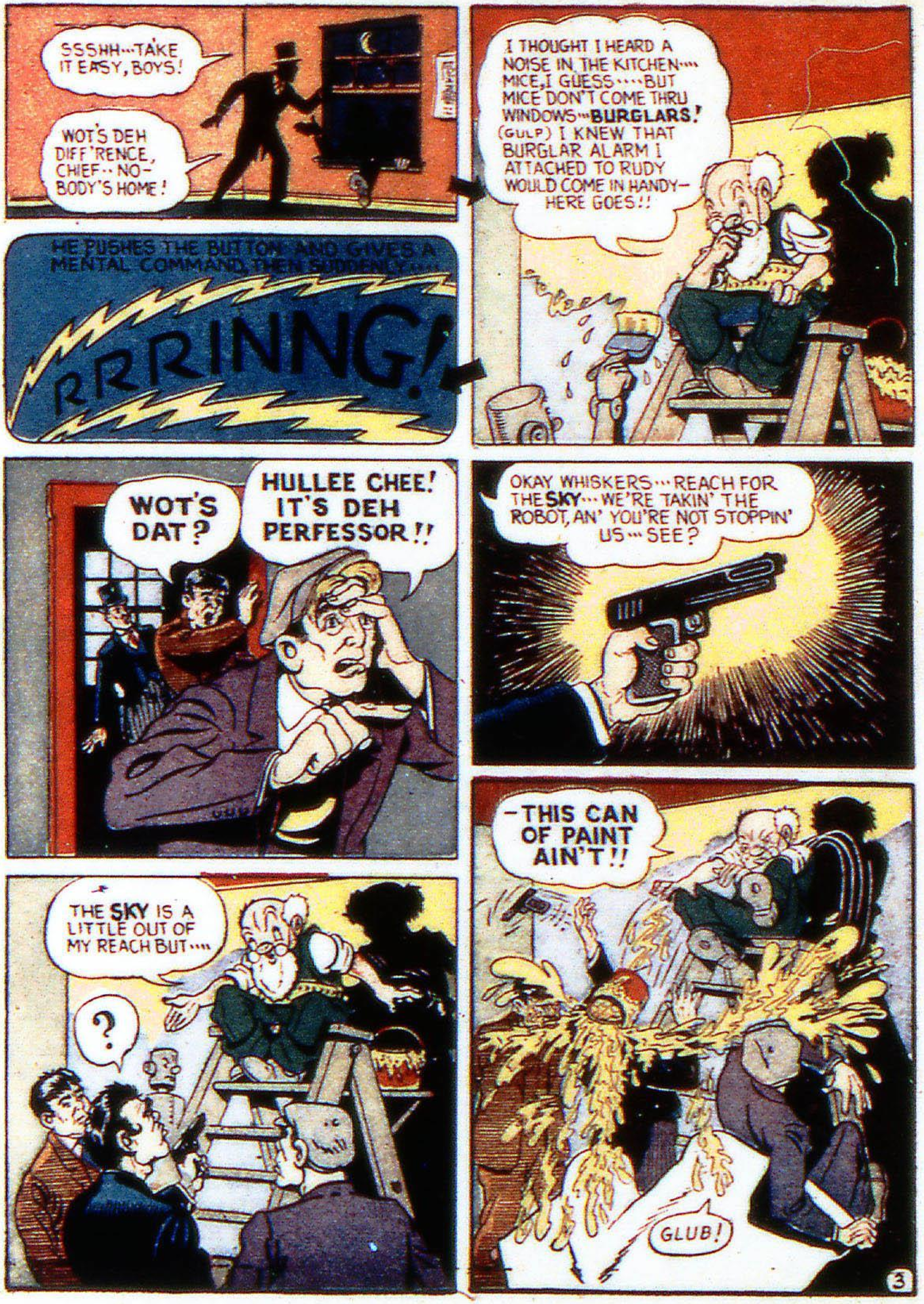

IT'S DEH PERFESSOR AN' HIS WIFE — I'VE GOT TO TELL DEH CHIEF RIGHT AWAY!

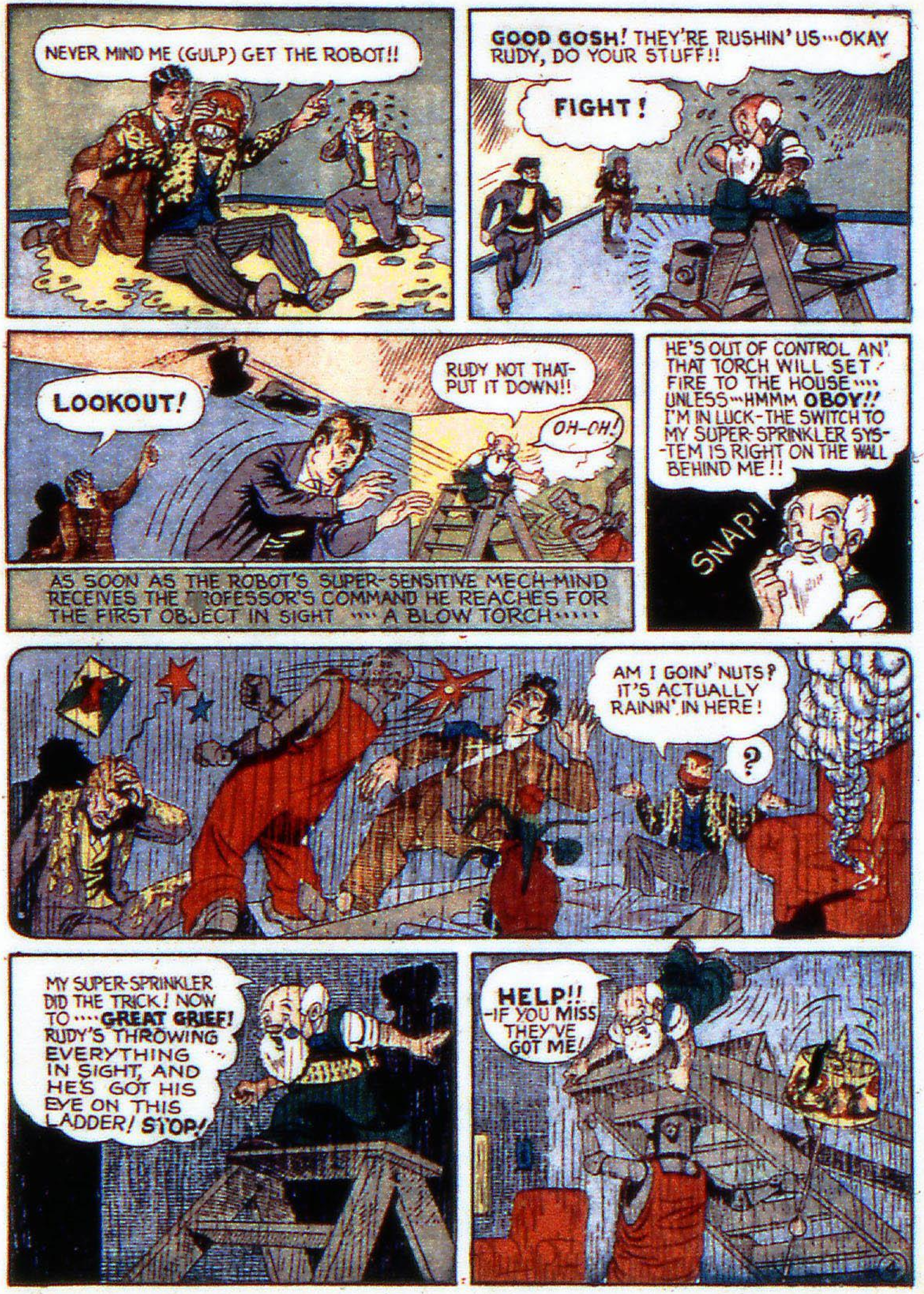

ARE YA SURE IT WAS THEM?
SURE! DEH COAST IS CLEAR- IT WUZ JUST LIKE YOU SAID-A LITTLE SHORT GUY AN' A FAT LADY- THEY LOOKED FUNNY--- ESPECIALLY THE PROF.! LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A COMIC MAGAZINE!

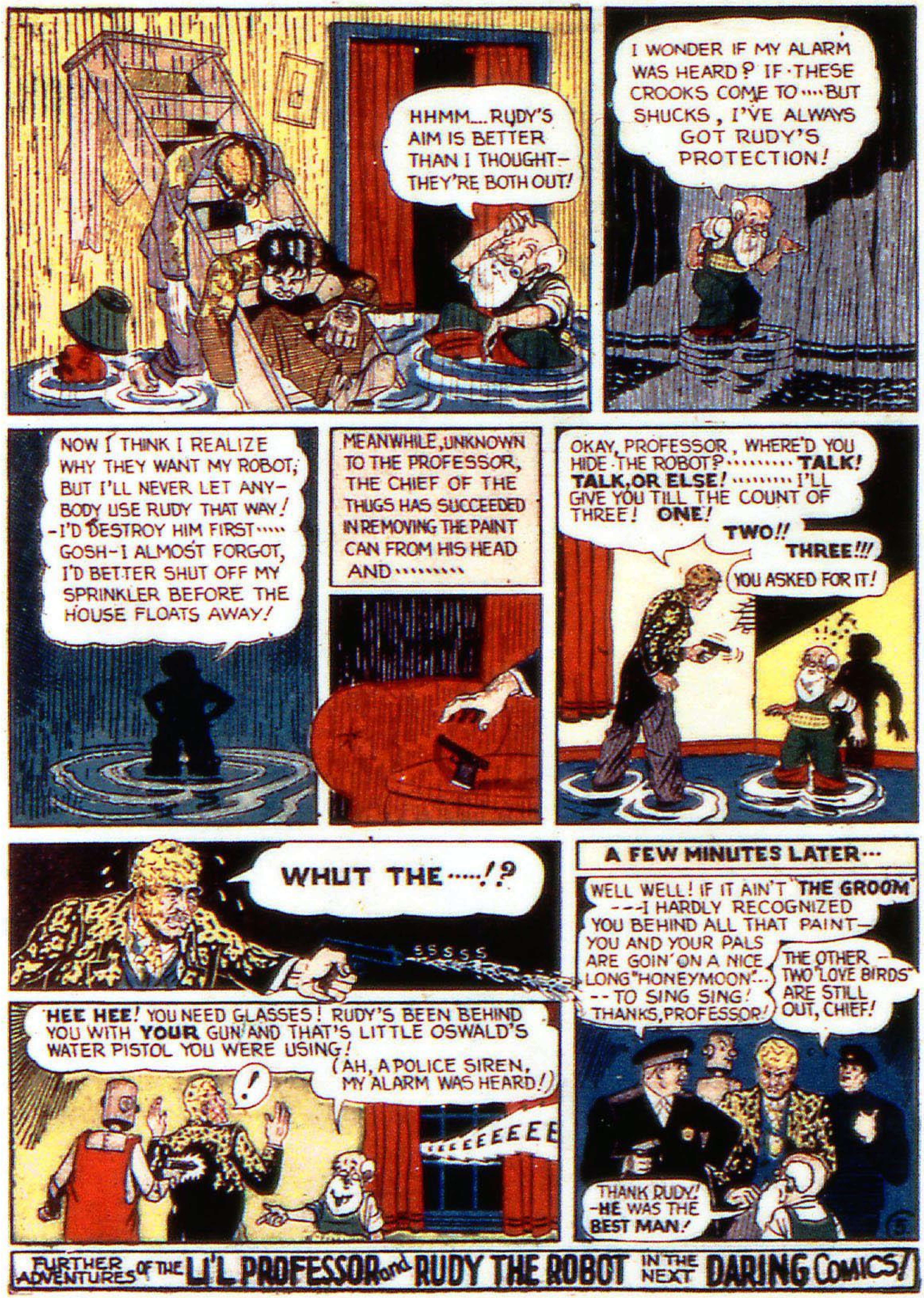

WOT DO WE WANT WIT DIS ROBOT, CHIEF?
DON'T YOU BOOBS UNDERSTAND? WE COULD CONTROL IT FROM OUR HIDEOUT-WHILE WE TAKE IT EASY THE ROBOT DOES ALL THE DIRTY WORK--- THEN WE COLLECT ALL THE DOUGH-SEE?
HMMMMM!


-DAT'S SMART- AN' SO IS DAT SUIT YER WEARIN'!
SURE-I PULL EVERY JOB IN A WEDDING SUIT IT MEANS GOOD LUCK TO ME - AN' IT'LL BRING US LUCK TONIGHT-C'MON!

AS THE PROFESSOR AND RUDY GO ABOUT THEIR WORK THEY DO NOT REALIZE THE ON-COMING DANGER ... AS "*THE GROOM*" GOES TO TOWN!


SSSHH...TAKE IT EASY, BOYS!
WOT'S DEH DIFF'RENCE, CHIEF.. NOBODY'S HOME!
I THOUGHT I HEARD A NOISE IN THE KITCHEN.... MICE, I GUESS.... BUT MICE DON'T COME THRU WINDOWS...BURGLARS! (GULP) I KNEW THAT BURGLAR ALARM I ATTACHED TO RUDY WOULD COME IN HANDY—HERE GOES!!
HE PUSHES THE BUTTON AND GIVES A MENTAL COMMAND, THEN SUDDENLY....
RRRINNG!
WOT'S DAT?
HULLEE CHEE! IT'S DEH PERFESSOR!!
OKAY WHISKERS...REACH FOR THE SKY...WE'RE TAKIN' THE ROBOT, AN' YOU'RE NOT STOPPIN' US...SEE?
THE SKY IS A LITTLE OUT OF MY REACH BUT....
?
—THIS CAN OF PAINT AIN'T!!
GLUB!


NEVER MIND ME (GULP) GET THE ROBOT!!
GOOD GOSH! THEY'RE RUSHIN' US.... OKAY RUDY, DO YOUR STUFF!!
FIGHT!
LOOKOUT!
RUDY NOT THAT- PUT IT DOWN!!
OH-OH!
AS SOON AS THE ROBOT'S SUPER-SENSITIVE MECH-MIND RECEIVES THE PROFESSOR'S COMMAND HE REACHES FOR THE FIRST OBJECT IN SIGHT .... A BLOW TORCH.....
HE'S OUT OF CONTROL AN' THAT TORCH WILL SET FIRE TO THE HOUSE.... UNLESS...HMMM OBOY!! I'M IN LUCK-THE SWITCH TO MY SUPER-SPRINKLER SYS-TEM IS RIGHT ON THE WALL BEHIND ME!!
SNAP!
AM I GOIN' NUTS? IT'S ACTUALLY RAININ' IN HERE!
?
MY SUPER-SPRINKLER DID THE TRICK! NOW TO.... GREAT GRIEF! RUDY'S THROWING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT, AND HE'S GOT HIS EYE ON THIS LADDER! STOP!
HELP!! -IF YOU MISS THEY'VE GOT ME!


HHMM....RUDY'S AIM IS BETTER THAN I THOUGHT– THEY'RE BOTH OUT!
I WONDER IF MY ALARM WAS HEARD? IF THESE CROOKS COME TO ···· BUT SHUCKS, I'VE ALWAYS GOT RUDY'S PROTECTION!
NOW I THINK I REALIZE WHY THEY WANT MY ROBOT; BUT I'LL NEVER LET ANYBODY USE RUDY THAT WAY! –I'D DESTROY HIM FIRST····· GOSH–I ALMOST FORGOT, I'D BETTER SHUT OFF MY SPRINKLER BEFORE THE HOUSE FLOATS AWAY!
MEANWHILE, UNKNOWN TO THE PROFESSOR, THE CHIEF OF THE THUGS HAS SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING THE PAINT CAN FROM HIS HEAD AND·········
OKAY, PROFESSOR, WHERE'D YOU HIDE THE ROBOT? ········· TALK! TALK, OR ELSE! ········ I'LL GIVE YOU TILL THE COUNT OF THREE! ONE!
TWO!!
THREE!!!
YOU ASKED FOR IT!
WHUT THE·····!?
SSSSS
HEE HEE! YOU NEED GLASSES! RUDY'S BEEN BEHIND YOU WITH YOUR GUN AND THAT'S LITTLE OSWALD'S WATER PISTOL YOU WERE USING!
!
(AH, A POLICE SIREN, MY ALARM WAS HEARD!)
EEEEEEEEE
A FEW MINUTES LATER···
WELL WELL! IF IT AIN'T "THE GROOM" ---I HARDLY RECOGNIZED YOU BEHIND ALL THAT PAINT– YOU AND YOUR PALS ARE GOIN' ON A NICE LONG "HONEYMOON"... --TO SING SING! THANKS, PROFESSOR!
THE OTHER – TWO "LOVE BIRDS" ARE STILL OUT, CHIEF!
THANK RUDY! –HE WAS THE BEST MAN!
5

FURTHER ADVENTURES OF THE LI'L PROFESSOR and RUDY THE ROBOT IN THE NEXT DARING COMICS!

# Smashing THRU AGAIN!

# CAPTAIN AMERICA

THE MAGAZINE YOU PROCLAIMED *the* KING OF COMICS!

## No 9

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HEADLINE HUNTER
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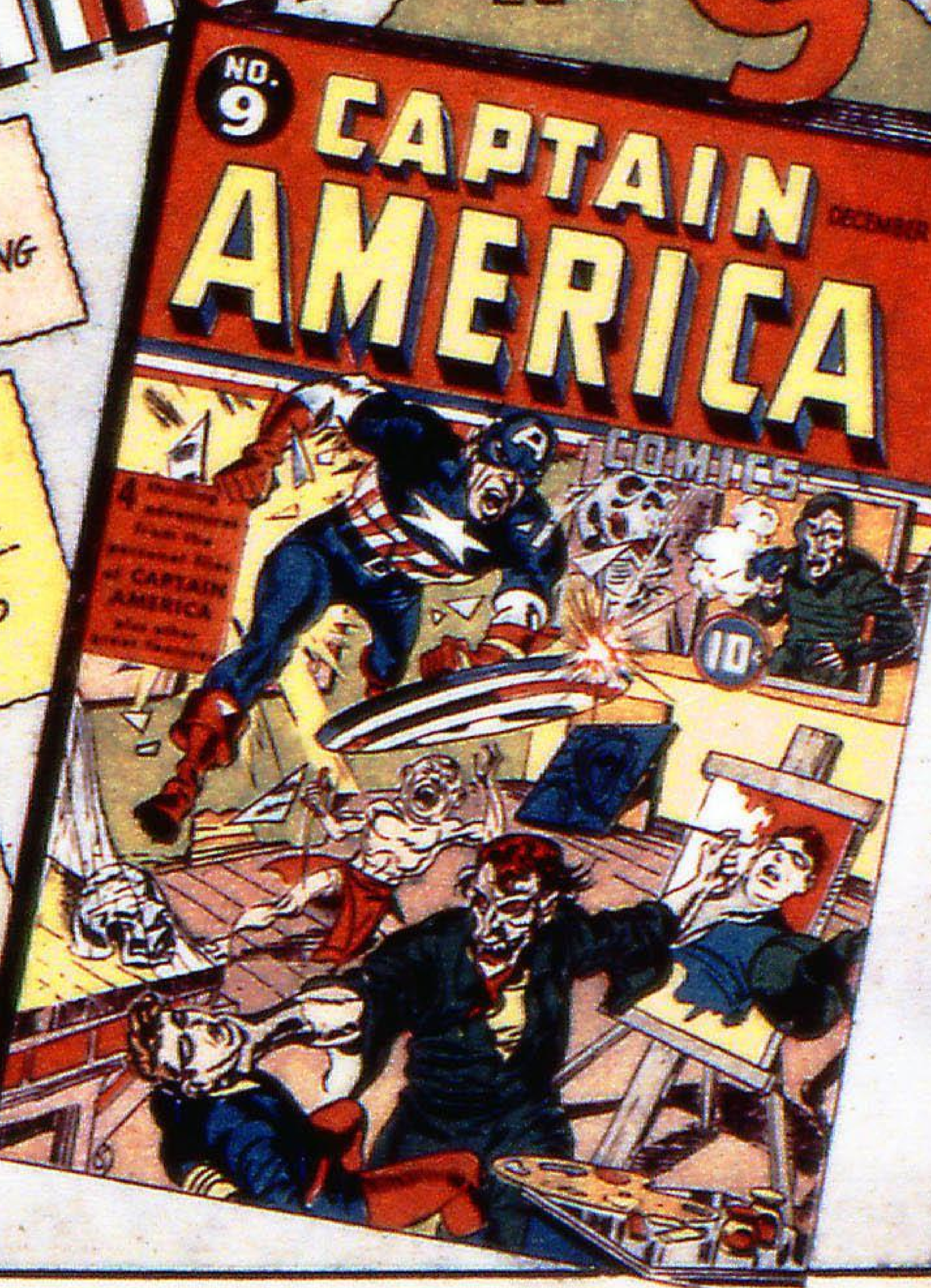
NO. 9
CAPTAIN AMERICA
DECEMBER
COMICS
4 thrilling adventures from the personal files of CAPTAIN AMERICA plus other great features
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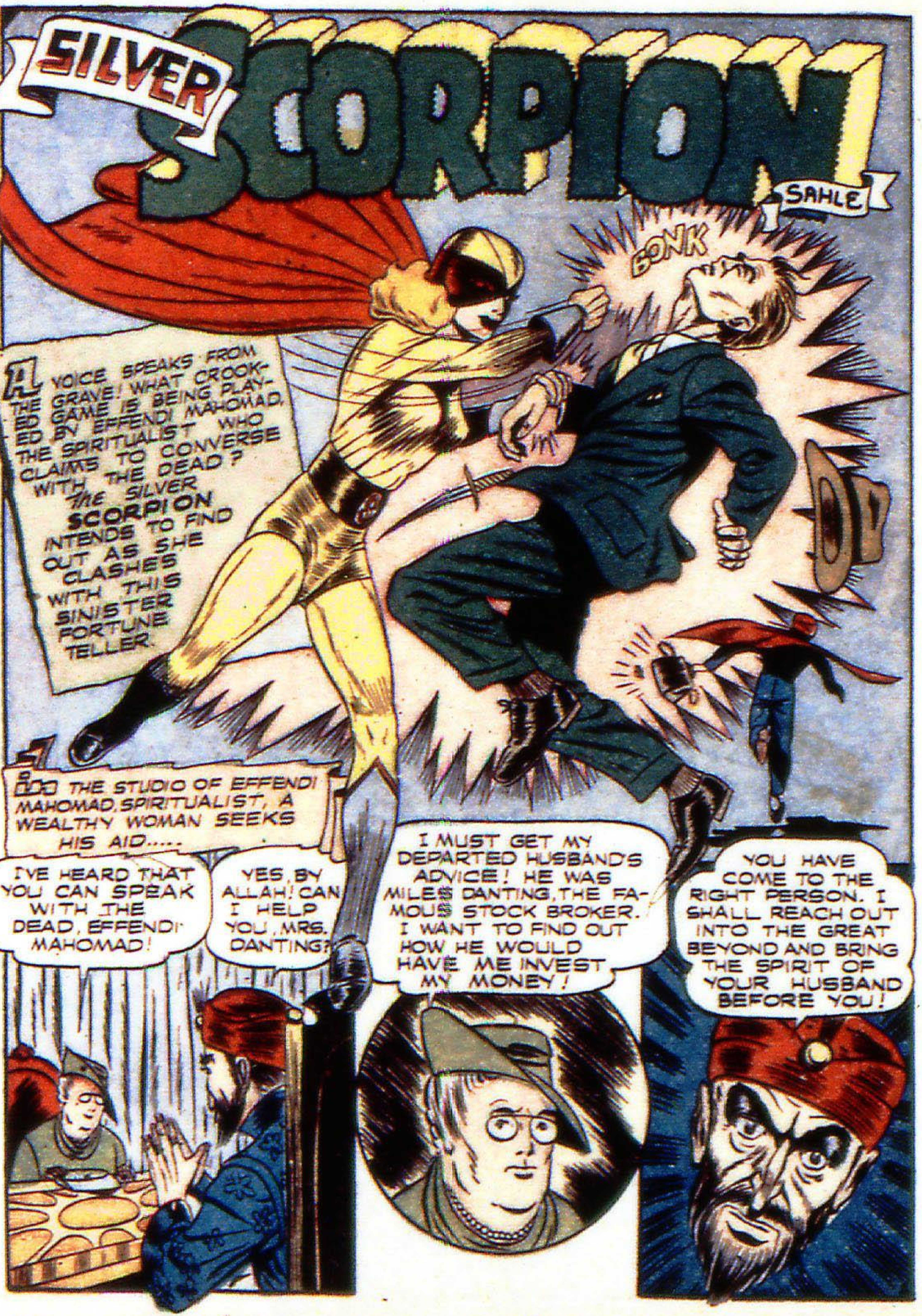
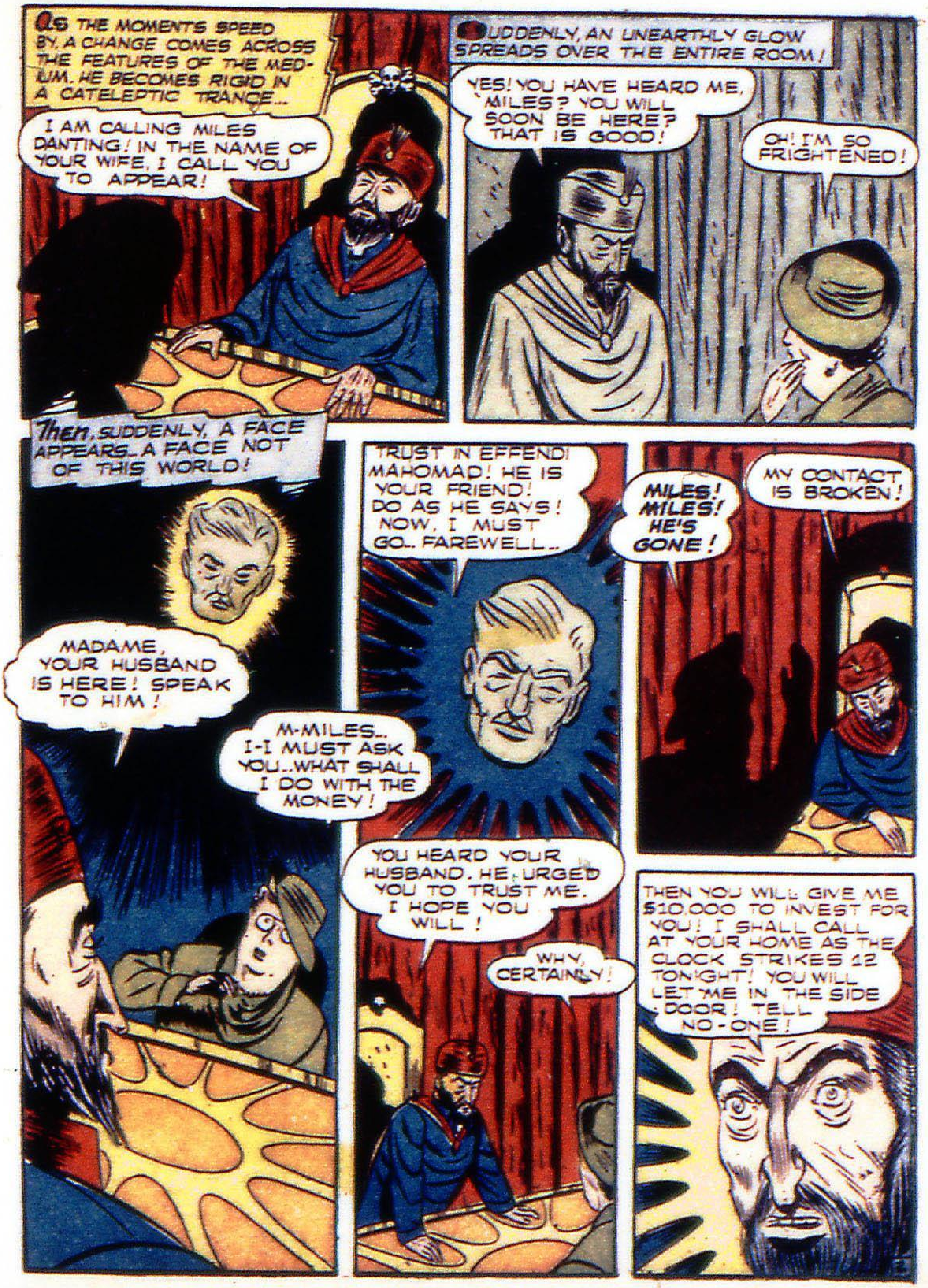
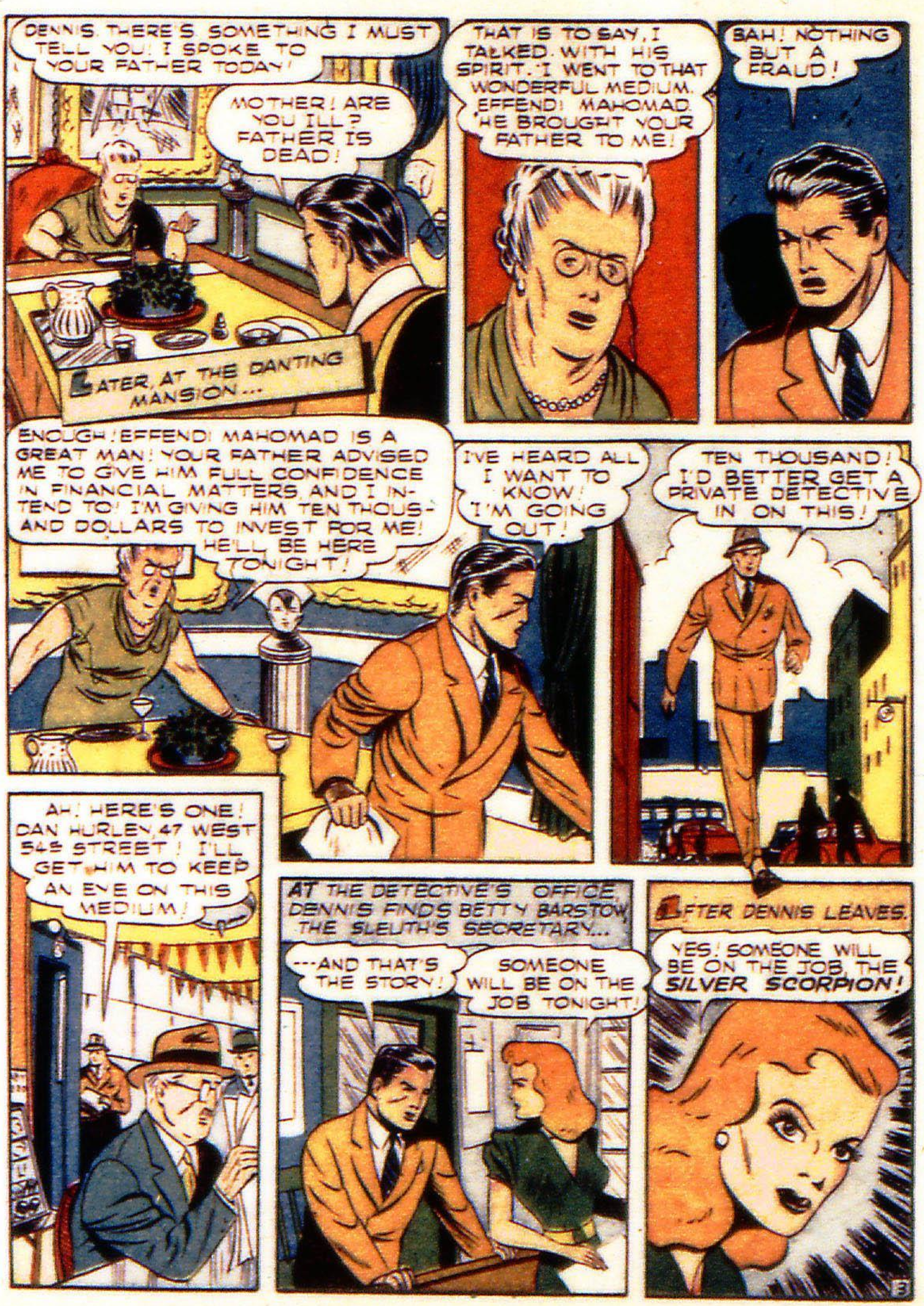
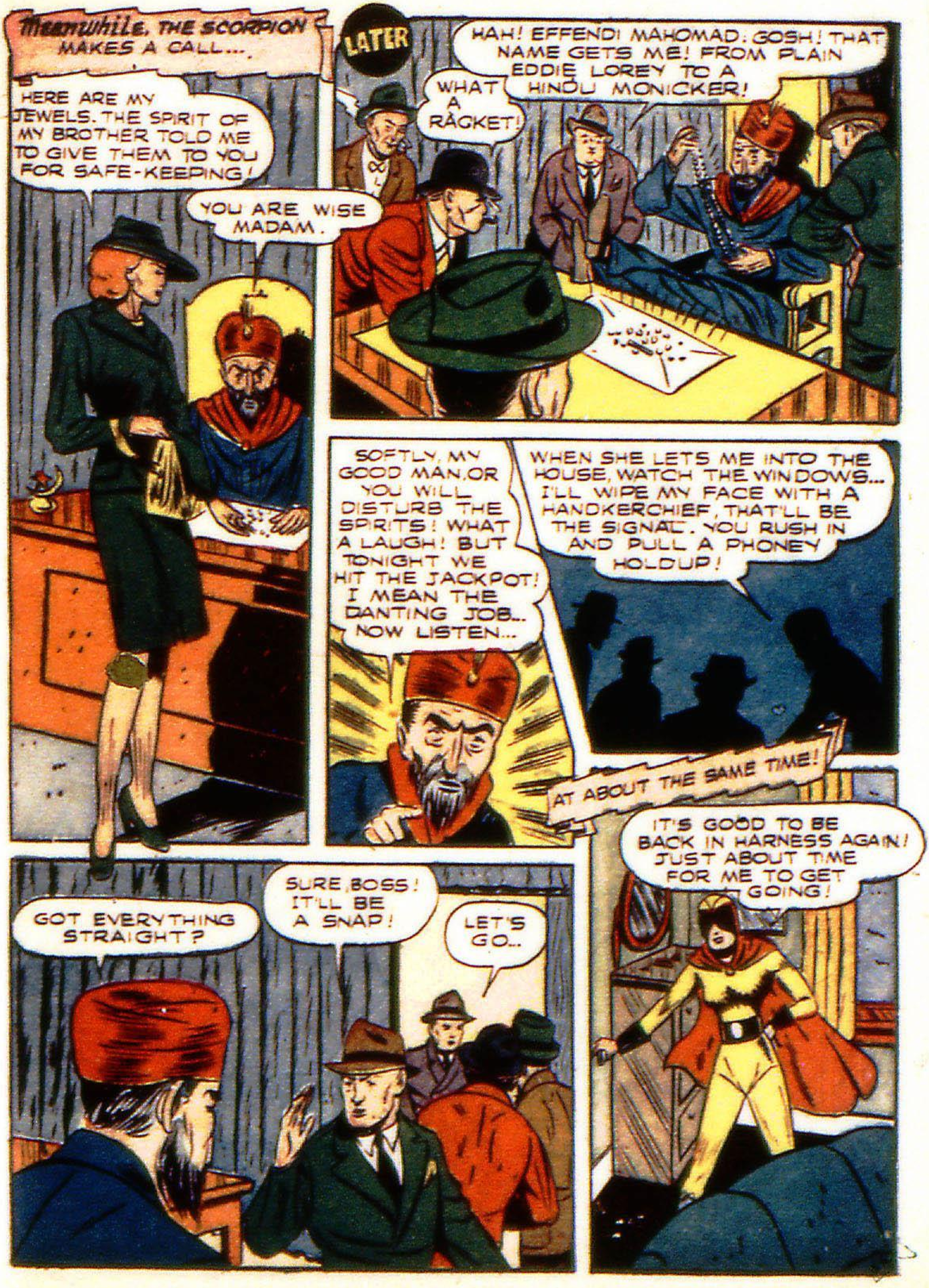
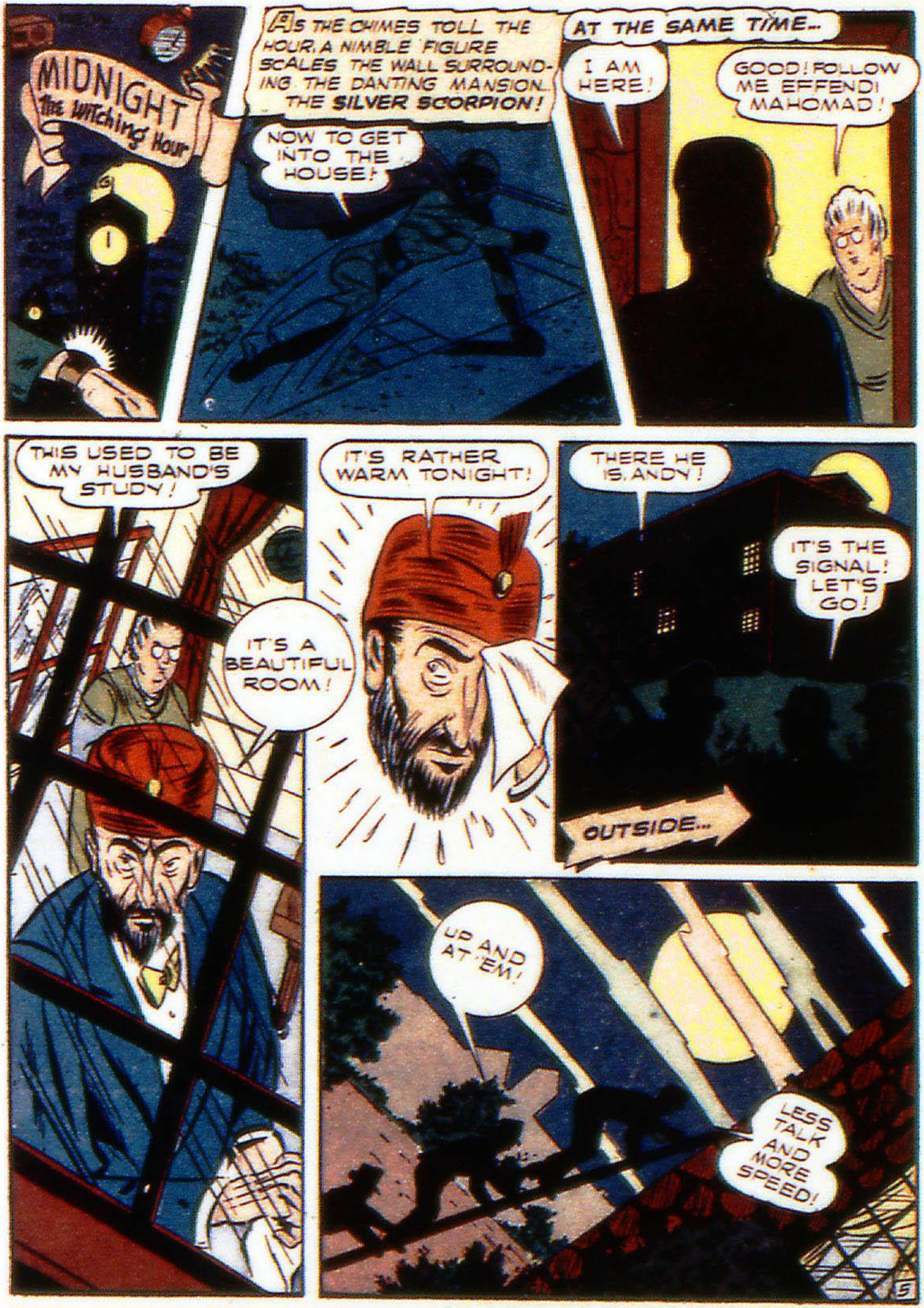
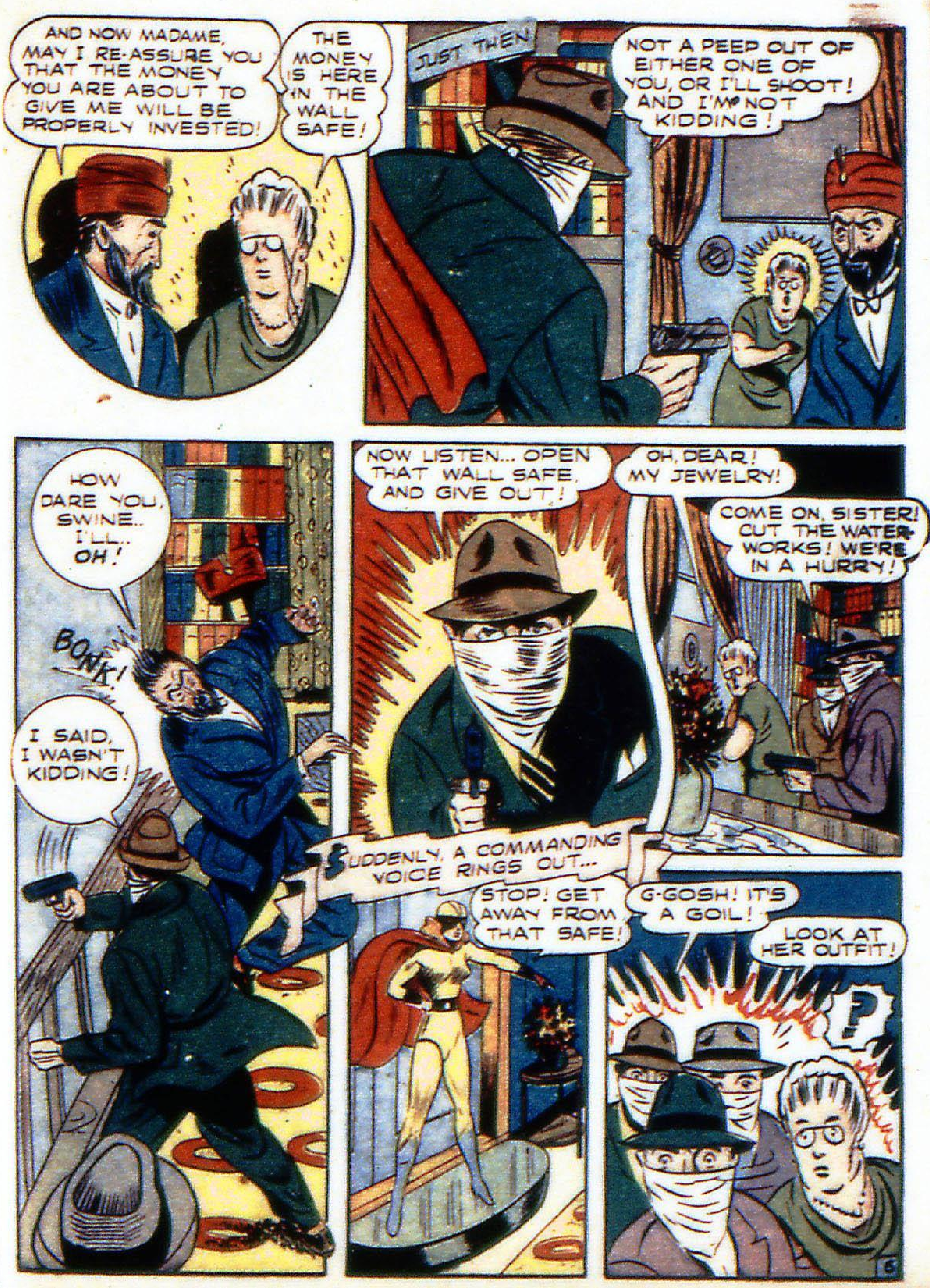

SILVER SCORPION
SAHLE
BONK
A VOICE SPEAKS FROM THE GRAVE! WHAT CROOKED GAME IS BEING PLAYED BY EFFENDI MAHOMAD, THE SPIRITUALIST WHO CLAIMS TO CONVERSE WITH THE DEAD? THE SILVER SCORPION INTENDS TO FIND OUT AS SHE CLASHES WITH THIS SINISTER FORTUNE TELLER.
IN THE STUDIO OF EFFENDI MAHOMAD, SPIRITUALIST, A WEALTHY WOMAN SEEKS HIS AID.....
I'VE HEARD THAT YOU CAN SPEAK WITH THE DEAD, EFFENDI MAHOMAD!
YES, BY ALLAH! CAN I HELP YOU, MRS. DANTING?
I MUST GET MY DEPARTED HUSBAND'S ADVICE! HE WAS MILES DANTING, THE FAMOUS STOCK BROKER. I WANT TO FIND OUT HOW HE WOULD HAVE ME INVEST MY MONEY!
YOU HAVE COME TO THE RIGHT PERSON. I SHALL REACH OUT INTO THE GREAT BEYOND AND BRING THE SPIRIT OF YOUR HUSBAND BEFORE YOU!

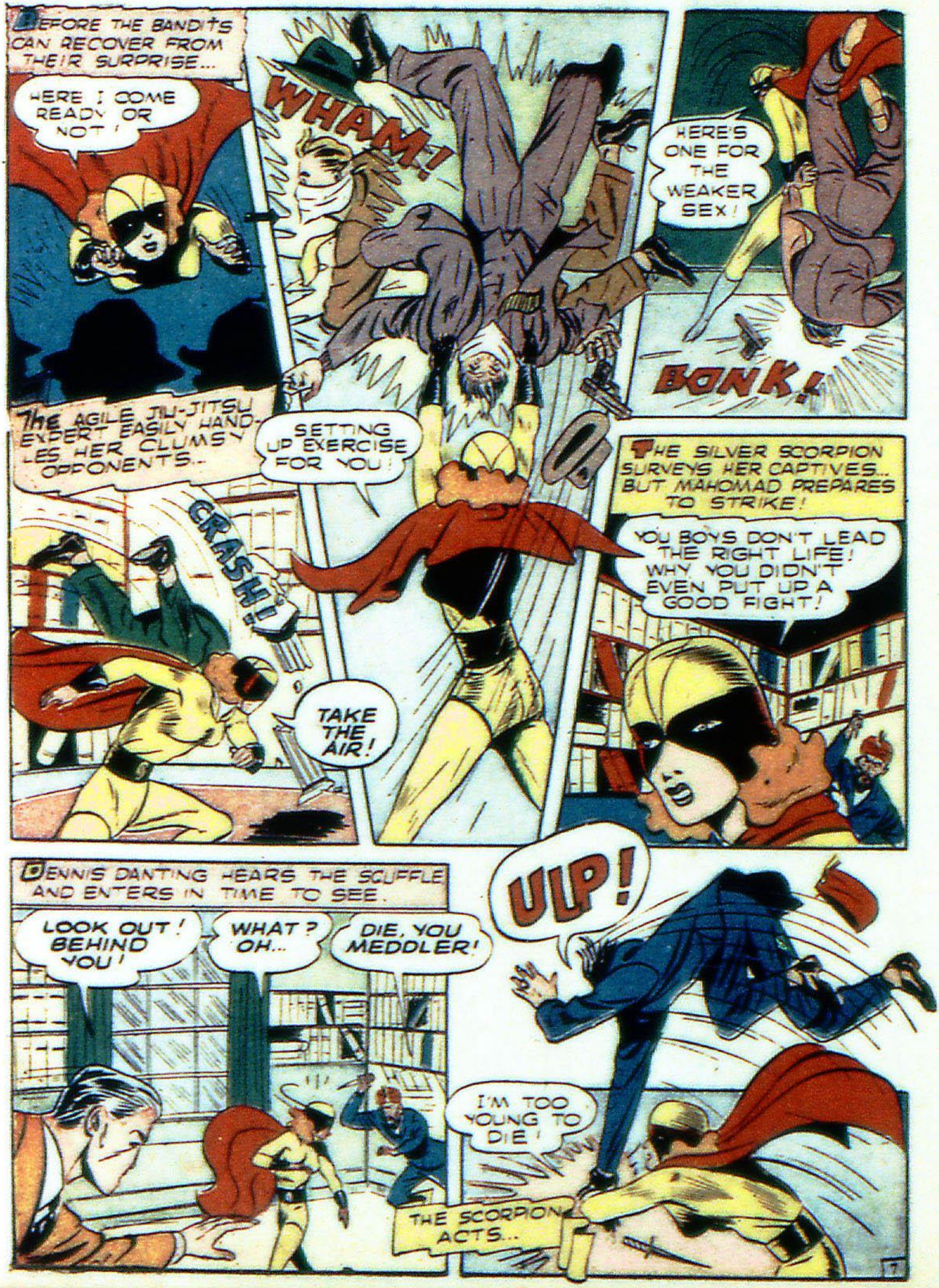

AS THE MOMENTS SPEED BY, A CHANGE COMES ACROSS THE FEATURES OF THE MEDIUM. HE BECOMES RIGID IN A CATELEPTIC TRANCE...
I AM CALLING MILES DANTING! IN THE NAME OF YOUR WIFE, I CALL YOU TO APPEAR!
SUDDENLY, AN UNEARTHLY GLOW SPREADS OVER THE ENTIRE ROOM!
YES! YOU HAVE HEARD ME, MILES? YOU WILL SOON BE HERE? THAT IS GOOD!
OH! I'M SO FRIGHTENED!
Then, SUDDENLY, A FACE APPEARS...A FACE NOT OF THIS WORLD!
MADAME, YOUR HUSBAND IS HERE! SPEAK TO HIM!
M-MILES.. I-I MUST ASK YOU...WHAT SHALL I DO WITH THE MONEY!
TRUST IN EFFENDI MAHOMAD! HE IS YOUR FRIEND! DO AS HE SAYS! NOW, I MUST GO.. FAREWELL..
MILES! MILES! HE'S GONE!
MY CONTACT IS BROKEN!
YOU HEARD YOUR HUSBAND. HE URGED YOU TO TRUST ME. I HOPE YOU WILL!
WHY, CERTAINLY!
THEN YOU WILL GIVE ME $10,000 TO INVEST FOR YOU! I SHALL CALL AT YOUR HOME AS THE CLOCK STRIKES 12 TONIGHT! YOU WILL LET ME IN THE SIDE DOOR! TELL NO-ONE!

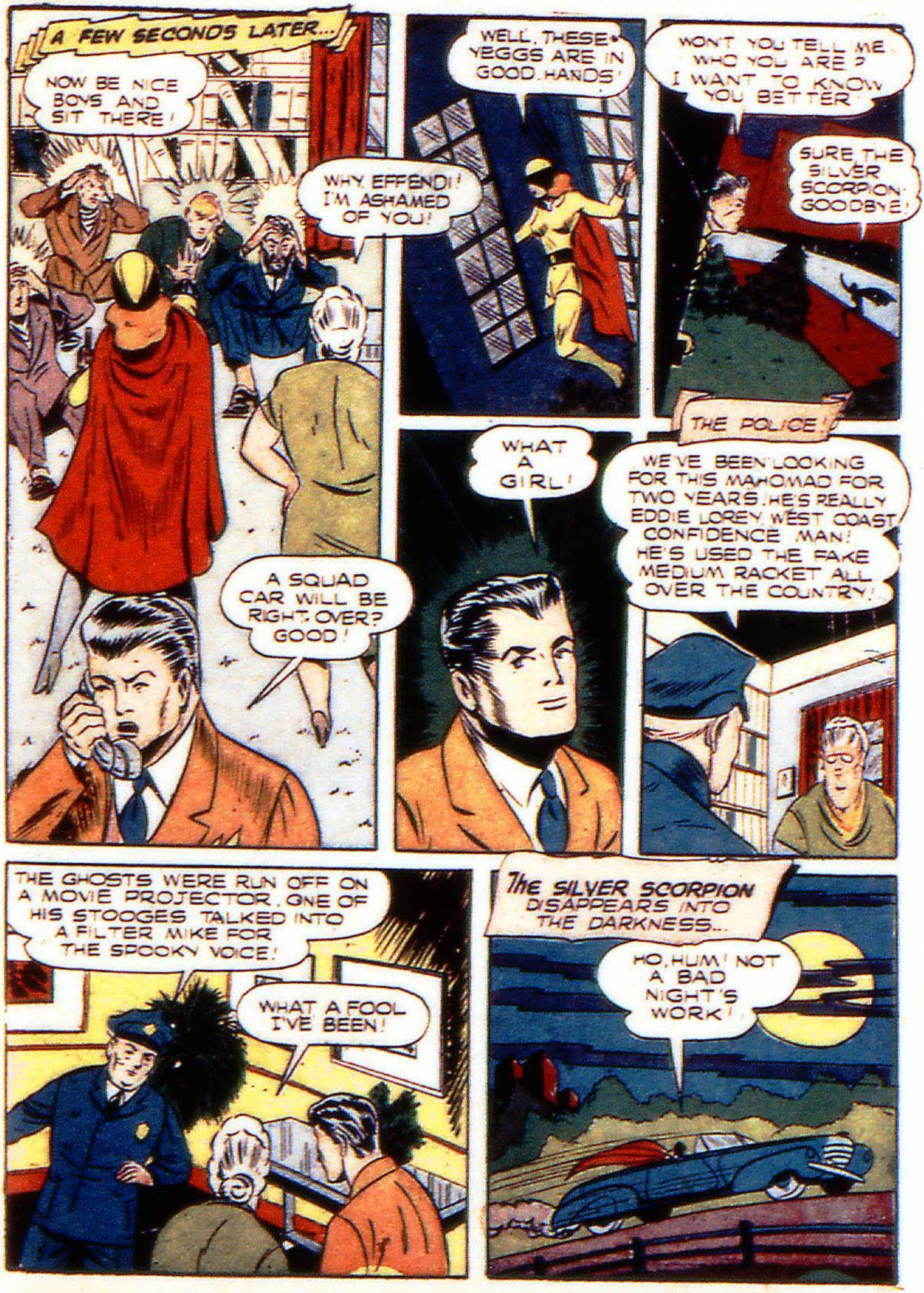

DENNIS, THERE'S SOMETHING I MUST TELL YOU! I SPOKE TO YOUR FATHER TODAY!
MOTHER! ARE YOU ILL? FATHER IS DEAD!
LATER, AT THE DANTING MANSION...
THAT IS TO SAY, I TALKED WITH HIS SPIRIT. I WENT TO THAT WONDERFUL MEDIUM, EFFENDI MAHOMAD. HE BROUGHT YOUR FATHER TO ME!
BAH! NOTHING BUT A FRAUD!
ENOUGH! EFFENDI MAHOMAD IS A GREAT MAN! YOUR FATHER ADVISED ME TO GIVE HIM FULL CONFIDENCE IN FINANCIAL MATTERS, AND I INTEND TO! I'M GIVING HIM TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO INVEST FOR ME! HE'LL BE HERE TONIGHT!
I'VE HEARD ALL I WANT TO KNOW! I'M GOING OUT!
TEN THOUSAND! I'D BETTER GET A PRIVATE DETECTIVE IN ON THIS!
AH! HERE'S ONE! DAN HURLEY, 47 WEST 54th STREET! I'LL GET HIM TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS MEDIUM!
AT THE DETECTIVE'S OFFICE, DENNIS FINDS BETTY BARSTOW, THE SLEUTH'S SECRETARY...
---AND THAT'S THE STORY!
SOMEONE WILL BE ON THE JOB TONIGHT!
AFTER DENNIS LEAVES.
YES! SOMEONE WILL BE ON THE JOB, THE SILVER SCORPION!

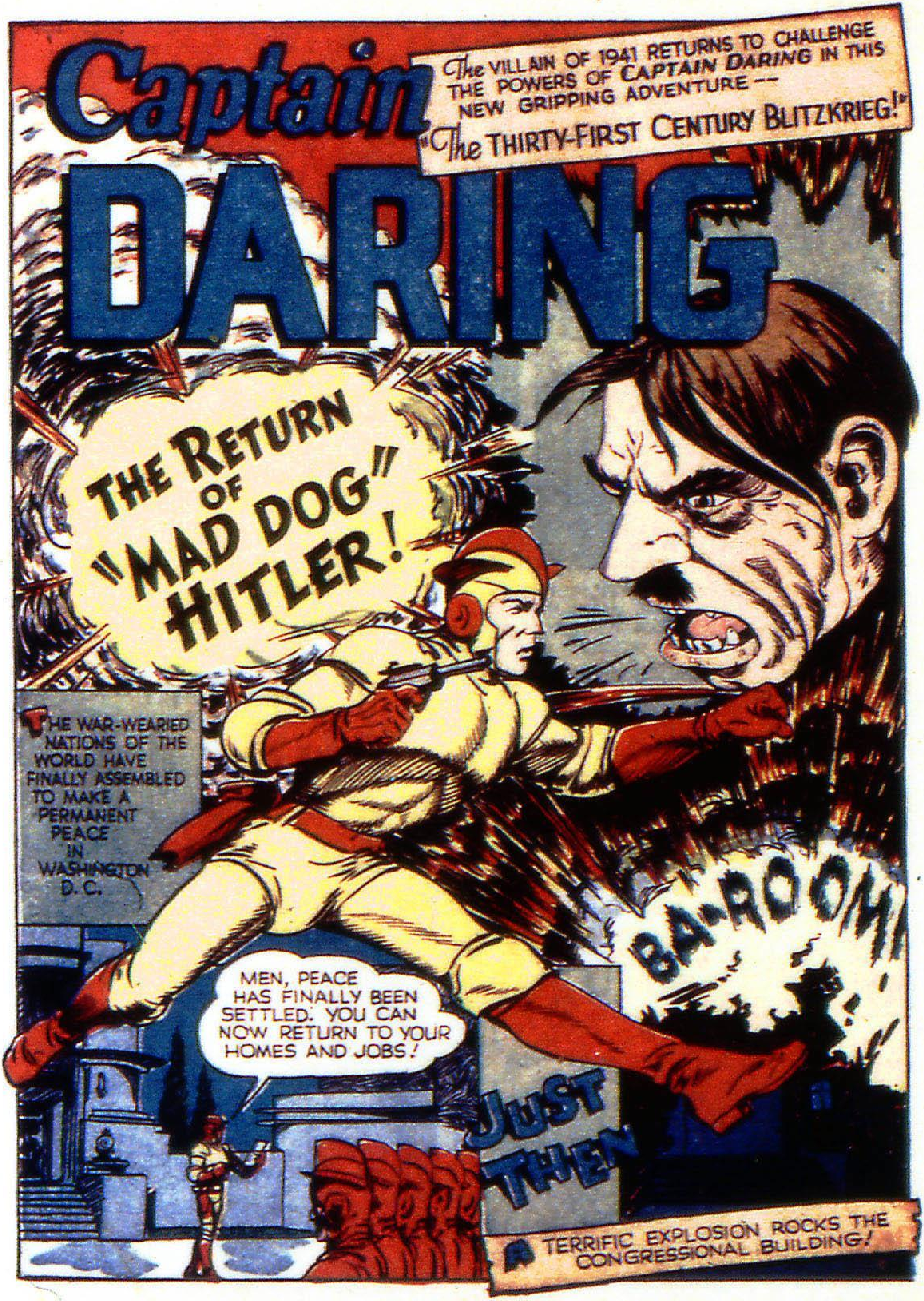

MEANWHILE, THE SCORPION MAKES A CALL....
HERE ARE MY JEWELS. THE SPIRIT OF MY BROTHER TOLD ME TO GIVE THEM TO YOU FOR SAFE-KEEPING!
YOU ARE WISE MADAM.
LATER
HAH! EFFENDI MAHOMAD: GOSH! THAT NAME GETS ME! FROM PLAIN EDDIE LOREY TO A HINDU MONICKER!
WHAT A RACKET!
SOFTLY, MY GOOD MAN, OR YOU WILL DISTURB THE SPIRITS! WHAT A LAUGH! BUT TONIGHT WE HIT THE JACKPOT! I MEAN THE DANTING JOB.. NOW LISTEN...
WHEN SHE LETS ME INTO THE HOUSE, WATCH THE WINDOWS... I'LL WIPE MY FACE WITH A HANDKERCHIEF, THAT'LL BE THE SIGNAL. YOU RUSH IN AND PULL A PHONEY HOLDUP!
GOT EVERYTHING STRAIGHT?
SURE, BOSS! IT'LL BE A SNAP!
LET'S GO...
AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME!
IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK IN HARNESS AGAIN! JUST ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO GET GOING!

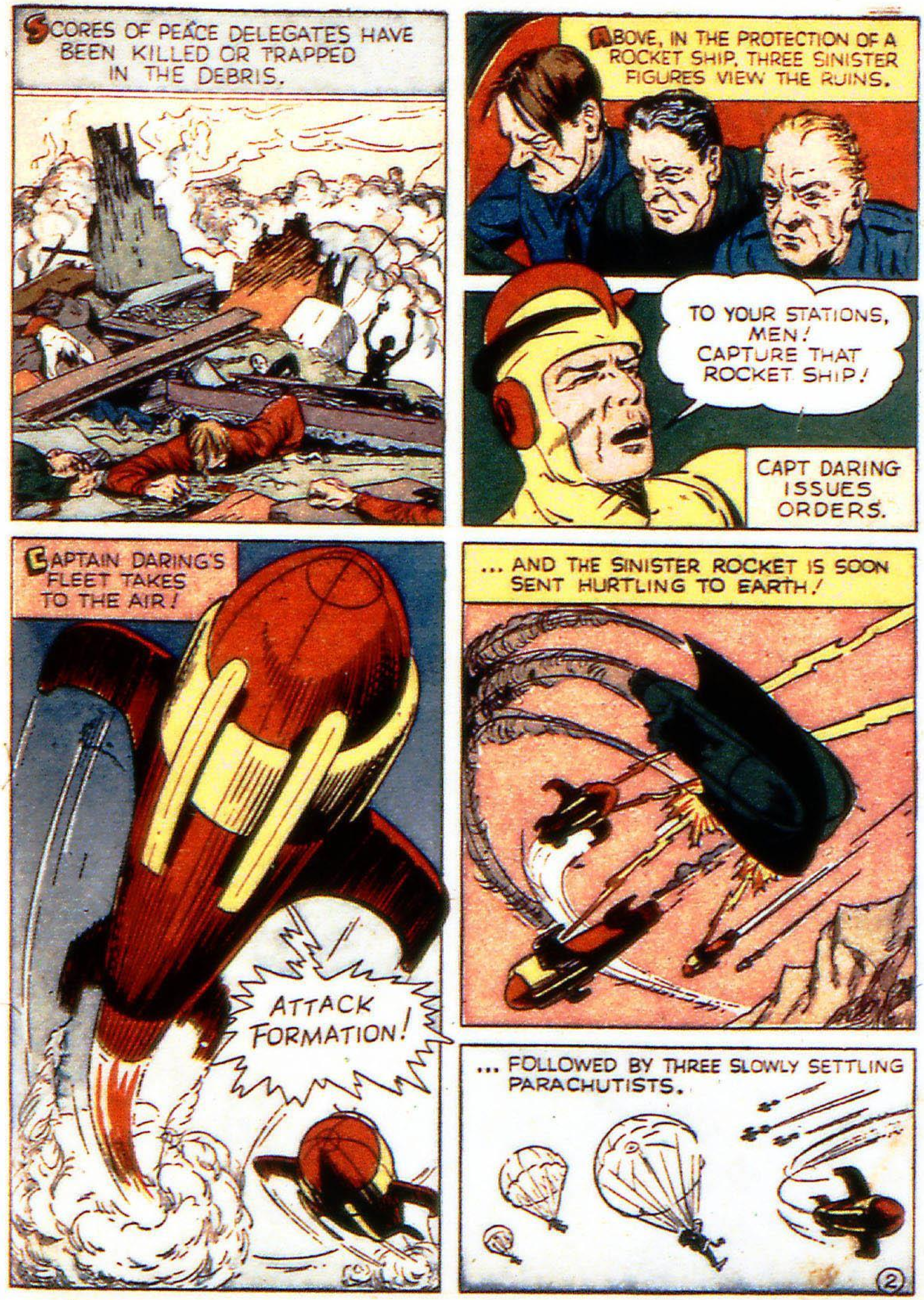

MIDNIGHT
The Witching Hour
AS THE CHIMES TOLL THE HOUR, A NIMBLE FIGURE SCALES THE WALL SURROUNDING THE DANTING MANSION. THE SILVER SCORPION!
NOW TO GET INTO THE HOUSE!
AT THE SAME TIME..
I AM HERE!
GOOD! FOLLOW ME EFFENDI MAHOMAD!
THIS USED TO BE MY HUSBAND'S STUDY!
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL ROOM!
IT'S RATHER WARM TONIGHT!
OUTSIDE...
THERE HE IS, ANDY!
IT'S THE SIGNAL! LET'S GO!
UP AND AT 'EM!
LESS TALK AND MORE SPEED!

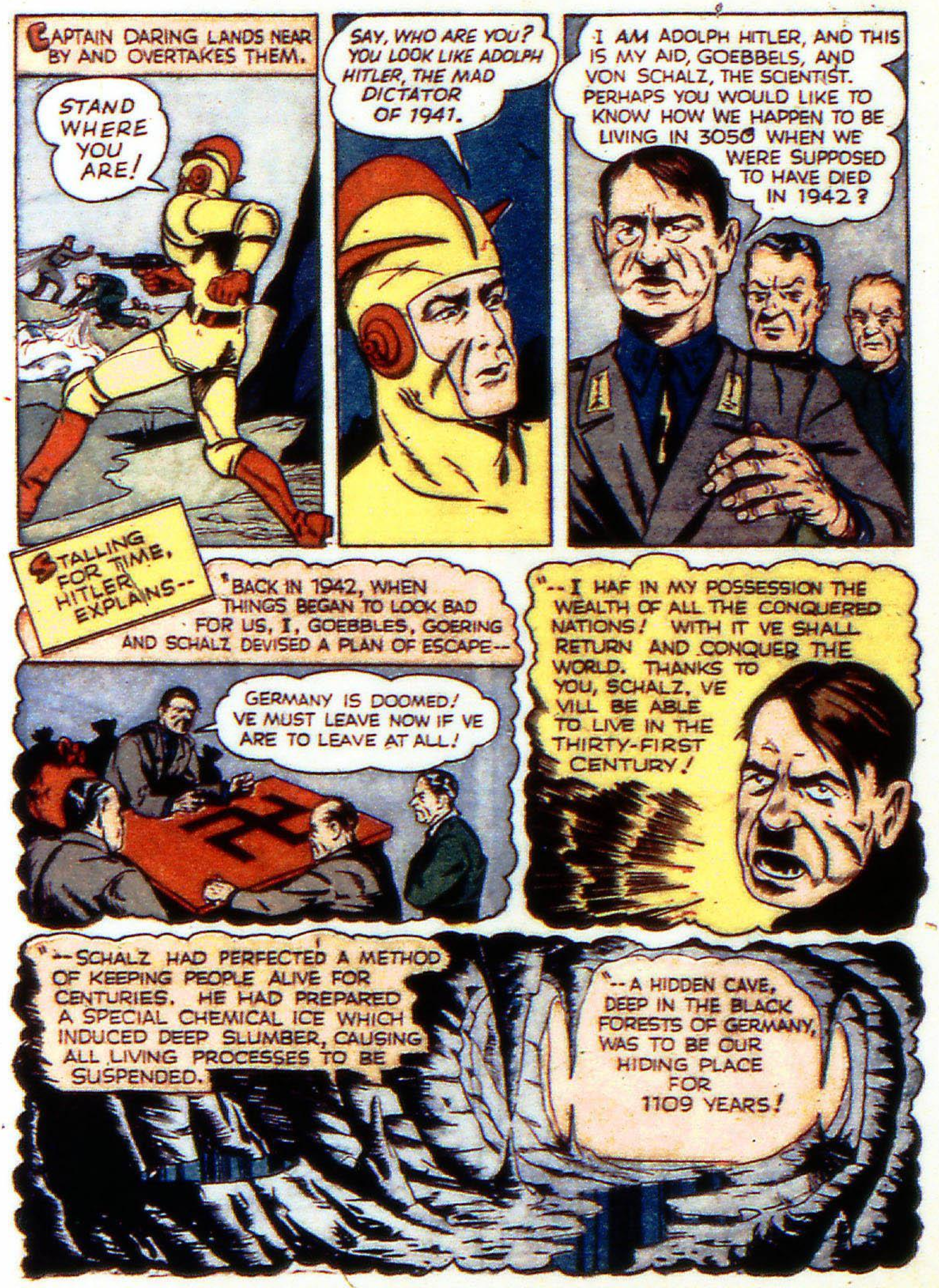

AND NOW MADAME, MAY I RE-ASSURE YOU THAT THE MONEY YOU ARE ABOUT TO GIVE ME WILL BE PROPERLY INVESTED!
THE MONEY IS HERE IN THE WALL SAFE!
JUST THEN
NOT A PEEP OUT OF EITHER ONE OF YOU, OR I'LL SHOOT! AND I'M NOT KIDDING!
HOW DARE YOU, SWINE.. I'LL.. OH!
BONK!
I SAID, I WASN'T KIDDING!
NOW LISTEN... OPEN THAT WALL SAFE, AND GIVE OUT!
OH, DEAR! MY JEWELRY!
COME ON, SISTER! CUT THE WATER-WORKS! WE'RE IN A HURRY!
SUDDENLY, A COMMANDING VOICE RINGS OUT...
STOP! GET AWAY FROM THAT SAFE!
G-GOSH! IT'S A GOIL!
LOOK AT HER OUTFIT!
?

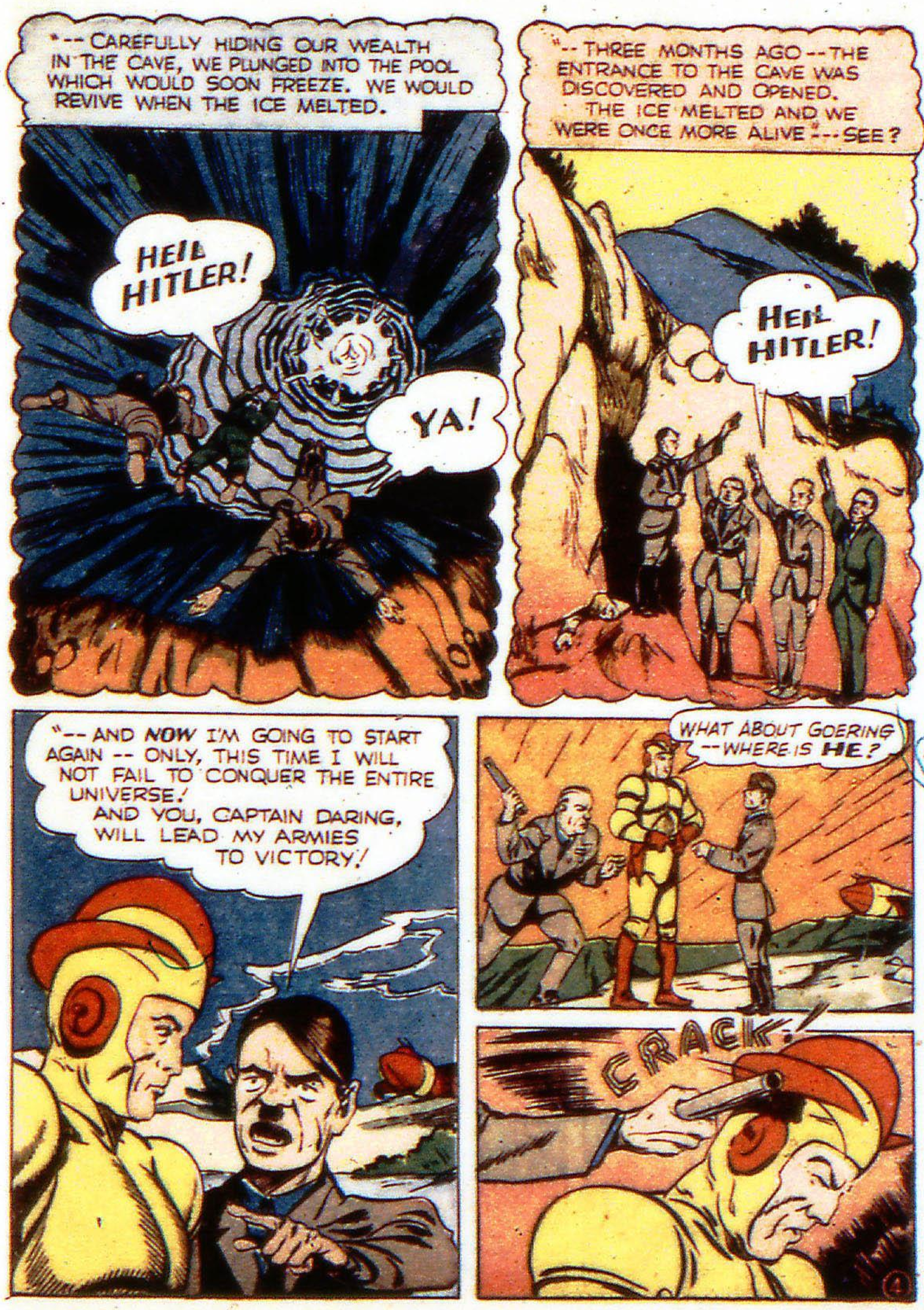

BEFORE THE BANDITS CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR SURPRISE...
HERE I COME READY OR NOT!
WHAM!
HERE'S ONE FOR THE WEAKER SEX!
BONK!
THE AGILE JIU-JITSU EXPERT EASILY HANDLES HER CLUMSY OPPONENTS..
SETTING UP EXERCISE FOR YOU!
CRASH!
TAKE THE AIR!
THE SILVER SCORPION SURVEYS HER CAPTIVES... BUT MAHOMAD PREPARES TO STRIKE!
YOU BOYS DON'T LEAD THE RIGHT LIFE! WHY, YOU DIDN'T EVEN PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT!
DENNIS DANTING HEARS THE SCUFFLE AND ENTERS IN TIME TO SEE.
LOOK OUT! BEHIND YOU!
WHAT? OH...
DIE, YOU MEDDLER!
ULP!
I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE!
THE SCORPION ACTS...

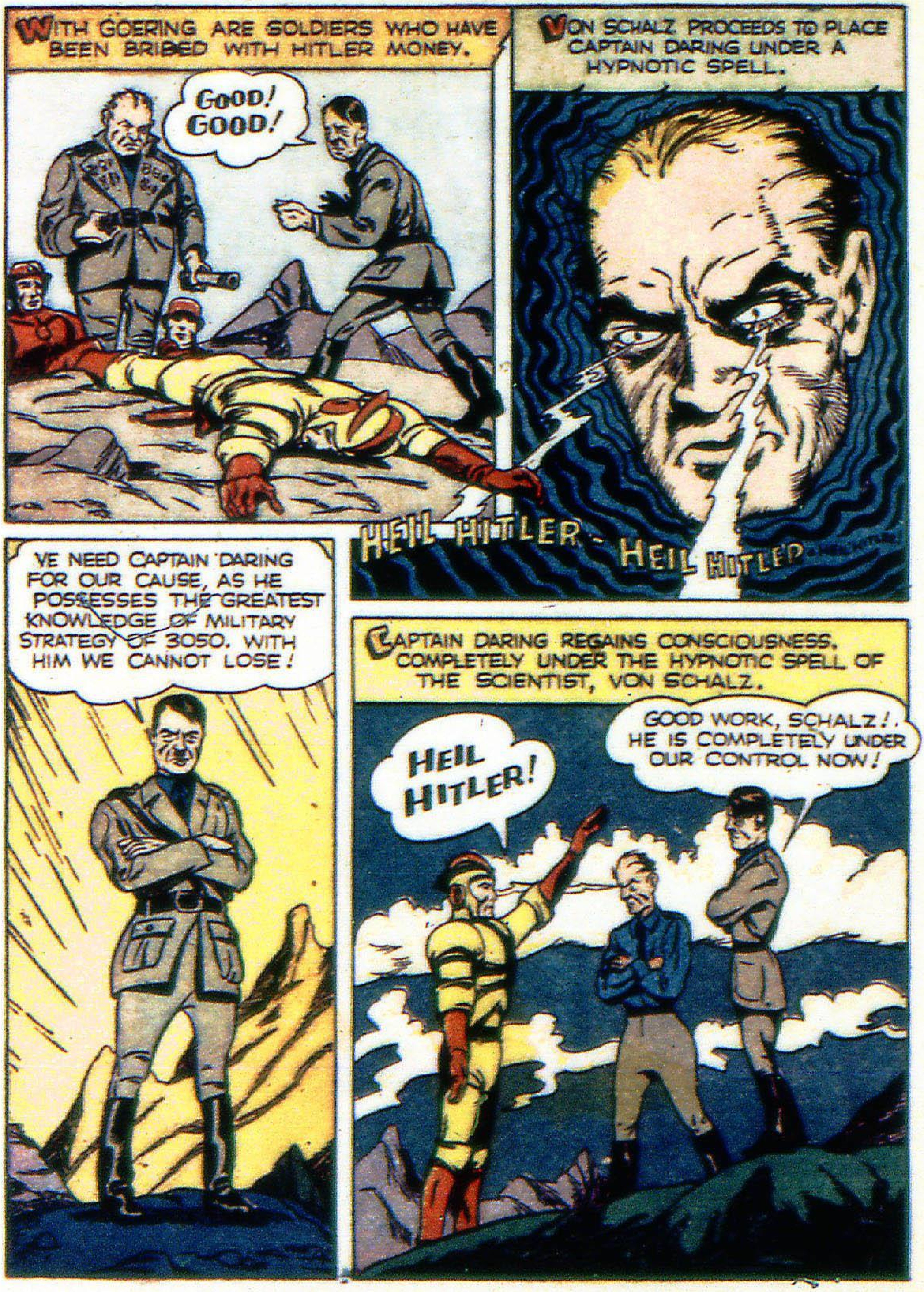

A FEW SECONDS LATER...
NOW BE NICE BOYS AND SIT THERE!
WHY, EFFENDI! I'M ASHAMED OF YOU!
A SQUAD CAR WILL BE RIGHT OVER? GOOD!
WELL, THESE YEGGS ARE IN GOOD HANDS!
WON'T YOU TELL ME WHO YOU ARE? I WANT TO KNOW YOU BETTER!
SURE, THE SILVER SCORPION. GOODBYE!
WHAT A GIRL!
THE POLICE!
WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR THIS MAHOMAD FOR TWO YEARS! HE'S REALLY EDDIE LOREY, WEST COAST CONFIDENCE MAN! HE'S USED THE FAKE MEDIUM RACKET ALL OVER THE COUNTRY!
THE GHOSTS WERE RUN OFF ON A MOVIE PROJECTOR. ONE OF HIS STOOGES TALKED INTO A FILTER MIKE FOR THE SPOOKY VOICE!
WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!
The SILVER SCORPION DISAPPEARS INTO THE DARKNESS...
HO, HUM! NOT A BAD NIGHT'S WORK!

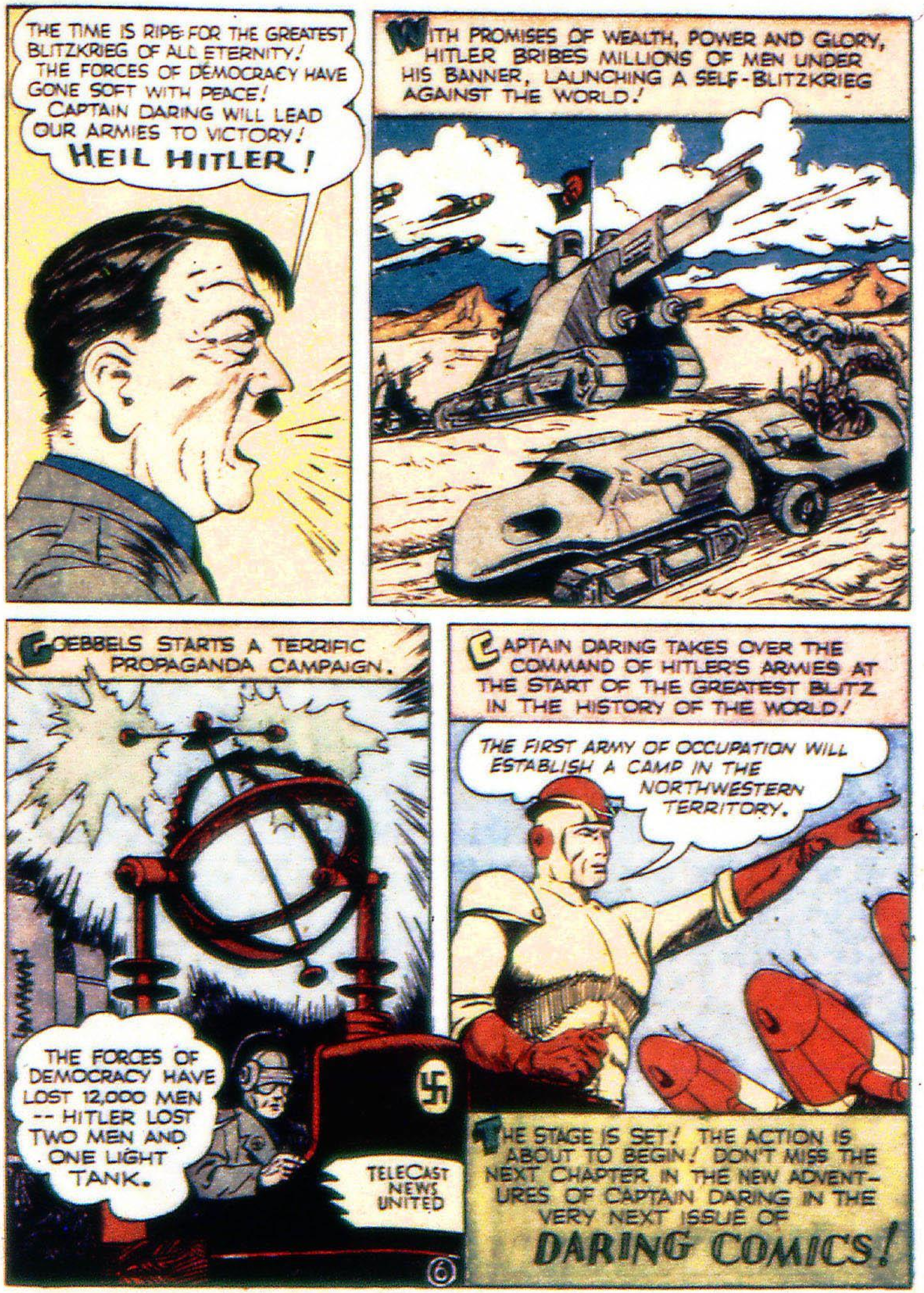

Captain DARING
The VILLAIN OF 1941 RETURNS TO CHALLENGE THE POWERS OF CAPTAIN DARING IN THIS NEW GRIPPING ADVENTURE --
"The THIRTY-FIRST CENTURY BLITZKRIEG!"
THE RETURN OF "MAD DOG" HITLER!
THE WAR-WEARIED NATIONS OF THE WORLD HAVE FINALLY ASSEMBLED TO MAKE A PERMANENT PEACE IN WASHINGTON D.C.
MEN, PEACE HAS FINALLY BEEN SETTLED. YOU CAN NOW RETURN TO YOUR HOMES AND JOBS!
BA-ROOOM!
JUST THEN
A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION ROCKS THE CONGRESSIONAL BUILDING!

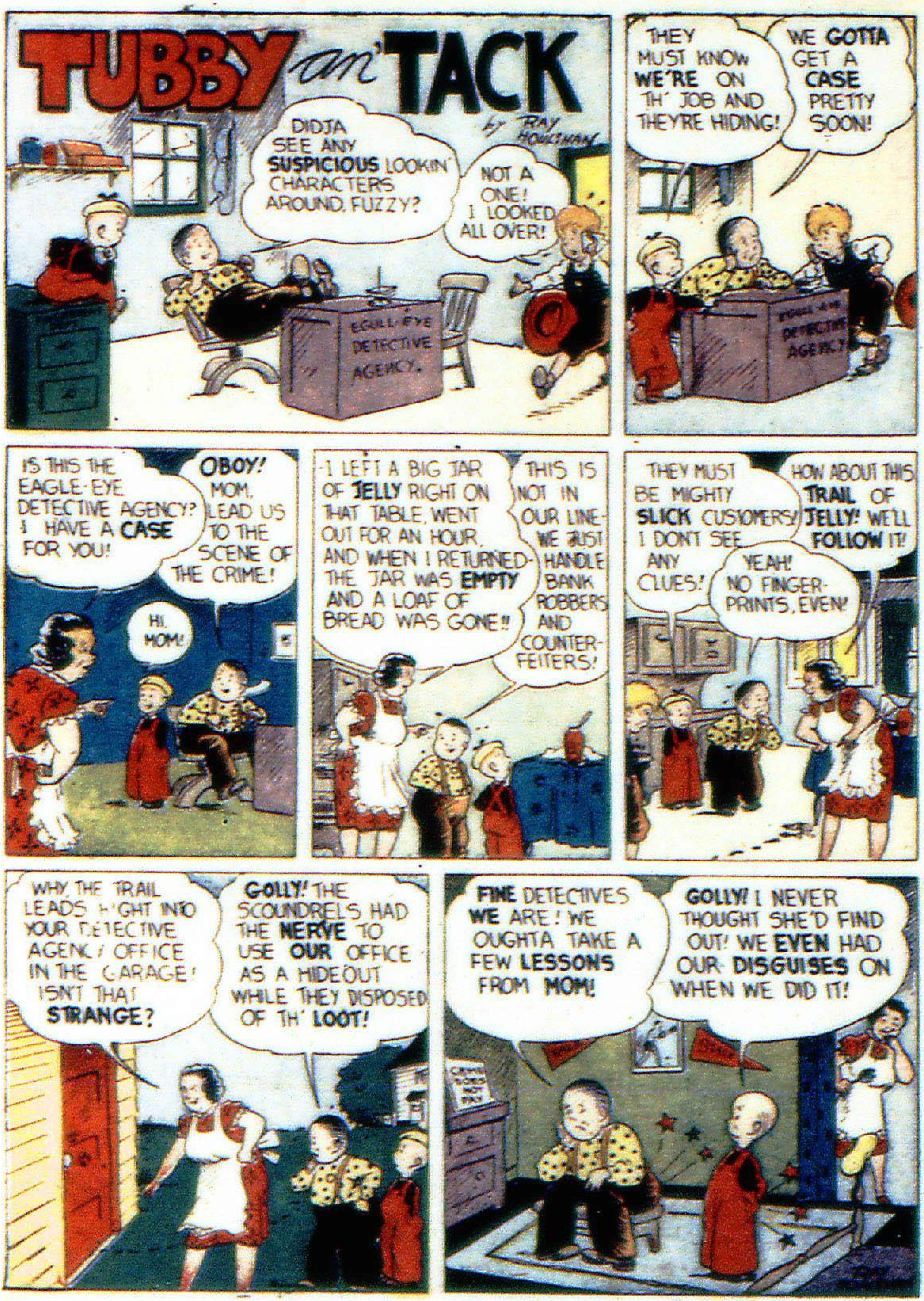

SCORES OF PEACE DELEGATES HAVE BEEN KILLED OR TRAPPED IN THE DEBRIS.
ABOVE, IN THE PROTECTION OF A ROCKET SHIP, THREE SINISTER FIGURES VIEW THE RUINS.
TO YOUR STATIONS, MEN! CAPTURE THAT ROCKET SHIP!
CAPT DARING ISSUES ORDERS.
CAPTAIN DARING'S FLEET TAKES TO THE AIR!
ATTACK FORMATION!
... AND THE SINISTER ROCKET IS SOON SENT HURTLING TO EARTH!
... FOLLOWED BY THREE SLOWLY SETTLING PARACHUTISTS.

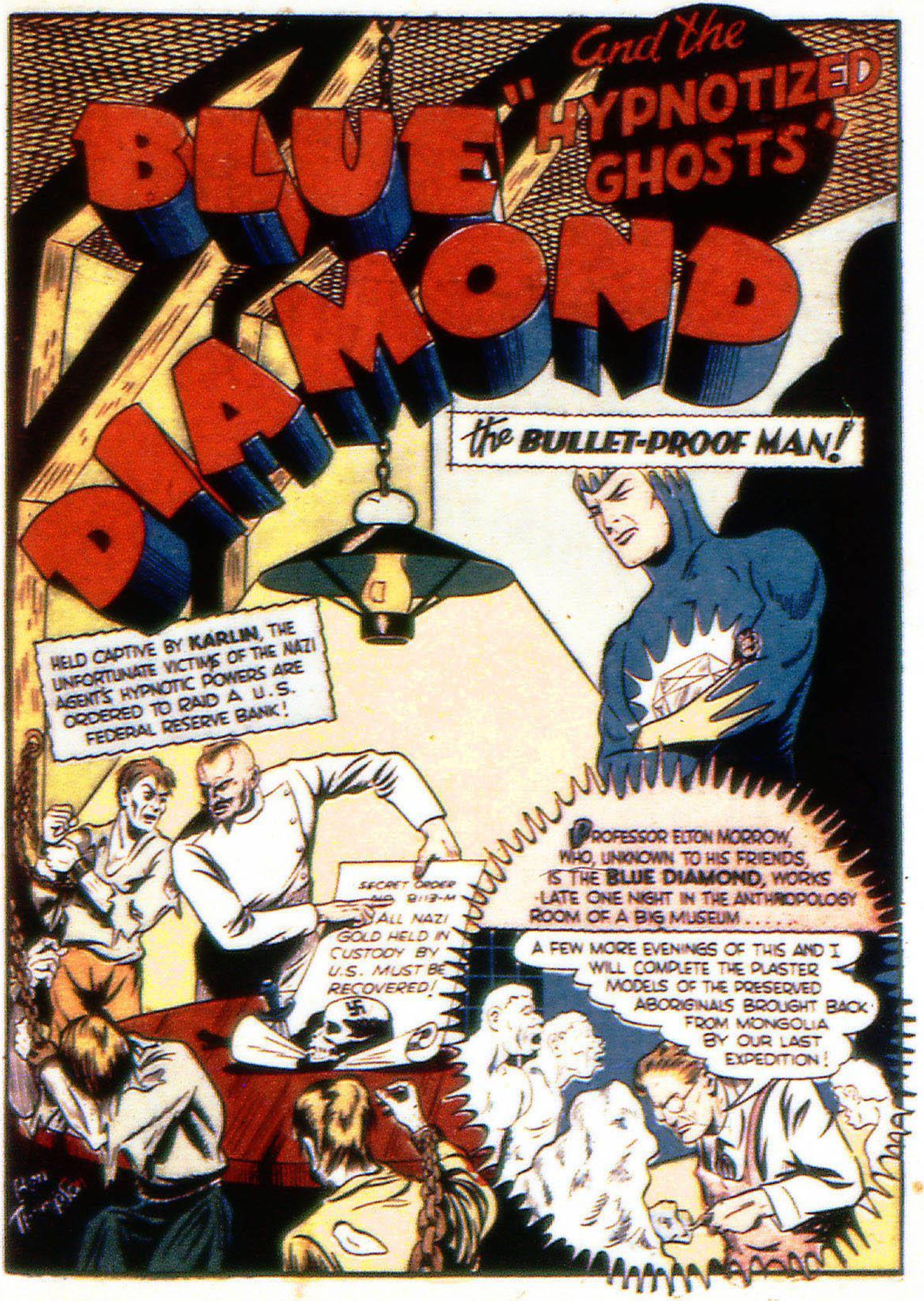

CAPTAIN DARING LANDS NEAR BY AND OVERTAKES THEM.
STAND WHERE YOU ARE!
SAY, WHO ARE YOU? YOU LOOK LIKE ADOLPH HITLER, THE MAD DICTATOR OF 1941.
I AM ADOLPH HITLER, AND THIS IS MY AID, GOEBBELS, AND VON SCHALZ, THE SCIENTIST. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW HOW WE HAPPEN TO BE LIVING IN 3050 WHEN WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE DIED IN 1942?
STALLING FOR TIME, HITLER EXPLAINS--
"BACK IN 1942, WHEN THINGS BEGAN TO LOOK BAD FOR US, I, GOEBBLES, GOERING AND SCHALZ DEVISED A PLAN OF ESCAPE--
GERMANY IS DOOMED! VE MUST LEAVE NOW IF VE ARE TO LEAVE AT ALL!
"--I HAF IN MY POSSESSION THE WEALTH OF ALL THE CONQUERED NATIONS! WITH IT VE SHALL RETURN AND CONQUER THE WORLD. THANKS TO YOU, SCHALZ, VE VILL BE ABLE TO LIVE IN THE THIRTY-FIRST CENTURY!
"--SCHALZ HAD PERFECTED A METHOD OF KEEPING PEOPLE ALIVE FOR CENTURIES. HE HAD PREPARED A SPECIAL CHEMICAL ICE WHICH INDUCED DEEP SLUMBER, CAUSING ALL LIVING PROCESSES TO BE SUSPENDED.
"--A HIDDEN CAVE, DEEP IN THE BLACK FORESTS OF GERMANY, WAS TO BE OUR HIDING PLACE FOR 1109 YEARS!

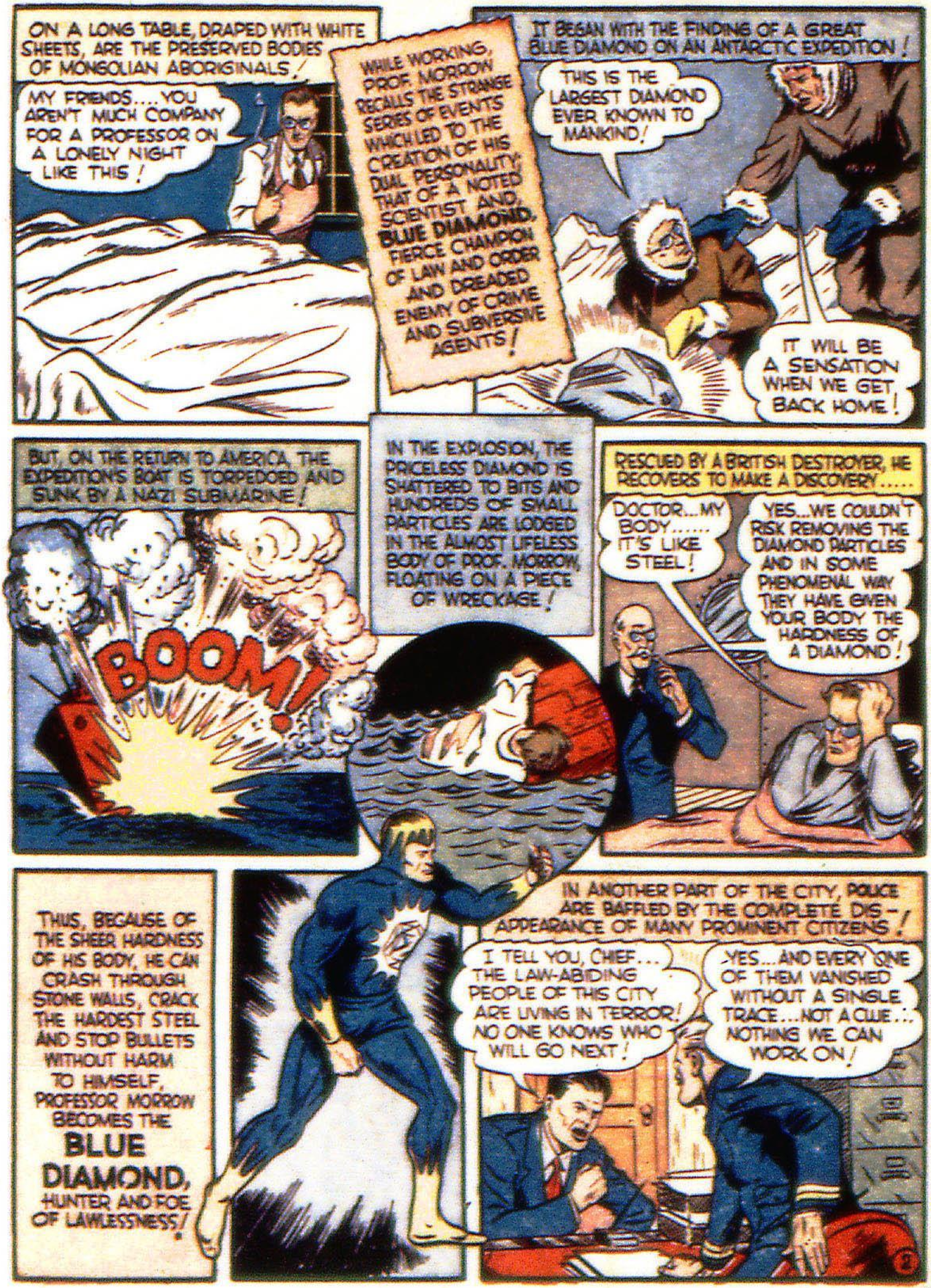

"-- CAREFULLY HIDING OUR WEALTH IN THE CAVE, WE PLUNGED INTO THE POOL WHICH WOULD SOON FREEZE. WE WOULD REVIVE WHEN THE ICE MELTED.
HEIL HITLER!
YA!
"-- THREE MONTHS AGO -- THE ENTRANCE TO THE CAVE WAS DISCOVERED AND OPENED. THE ICE MELTED AND WE WERE ONCE MORE ALIVE" -- SEE?
HEIL HITLER!
"-- AND NOW I'M GOING TO START AGAIN -- ONLY, THIS TIME I WILL NOT FAIL TO CONQUER THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE! AND YOU, CAPTAIN DARING, WILL LEAD MY ARMIES TO VICTORY!
WHAT ABOUT GOERING -- WHERE IS HE?
CRACK!
4

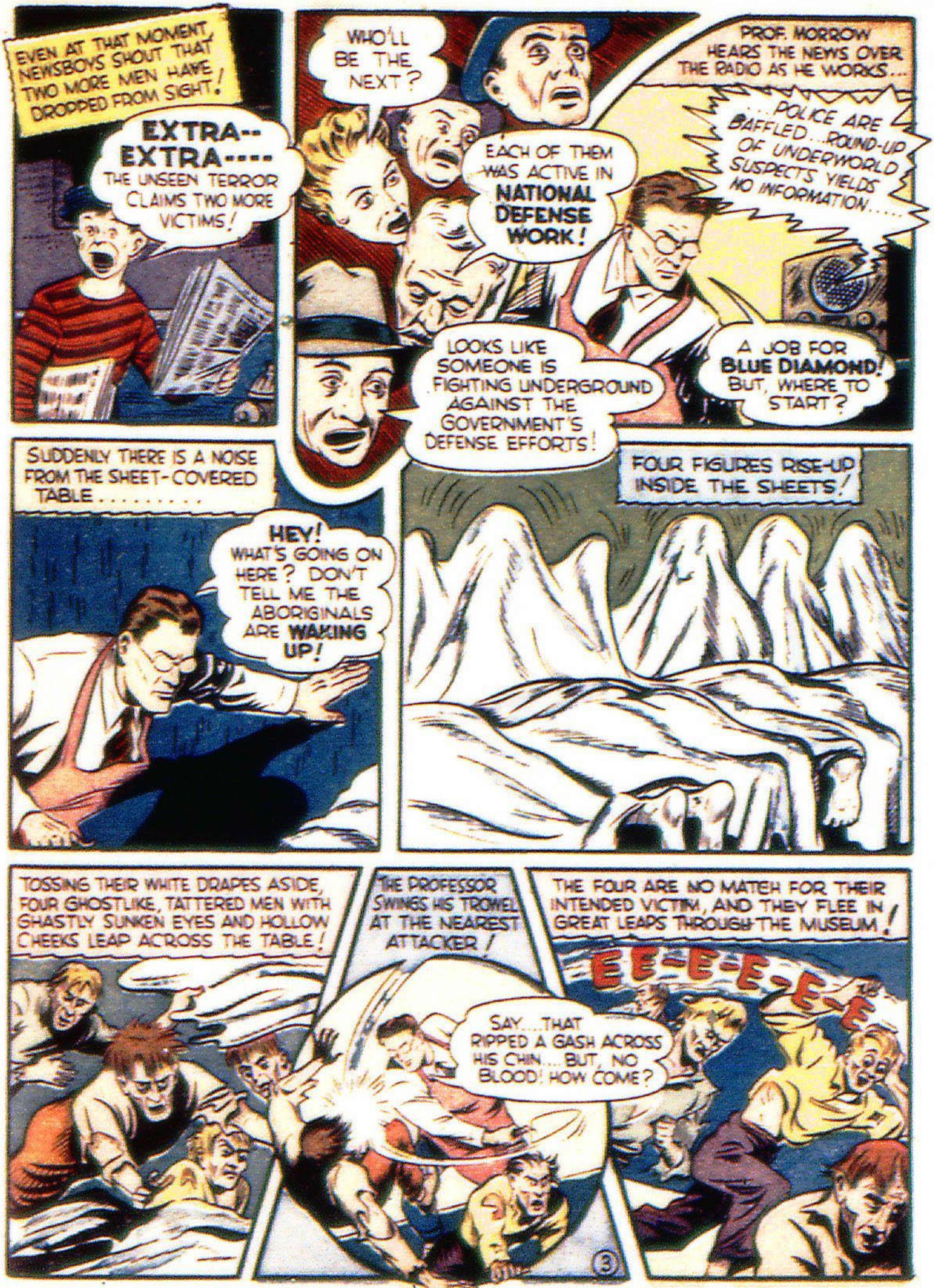

WITH GOERING ARE SOLDIERS WHO HAVE BEEN BRIBED WITH HITLER MONEY.
GOOD! GOOD!
VON SCHALZ PROCEEDS TO PLACE CAPTAIN DARING UNDER A HYPNOTIC SPELL.
HEIL HITLER - HEIL HITLER
VE NEED CAPTAIN DARING FOR OUR CAUSE, AS HE POSSESSES THE GREATEST KNOWLEDGE OF MILITARY STRATEGY OF 3050. WITH HIM WE CANNOT LOSE!
CAPTAIN DARING REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS, COMPLETELY UNDER THE HYPNOTIC SPELL OF THE SCIENTIST, VON SCHALZ.
HEIL HITLER!
GOOD WORK, SCHALZ!. HE IS COMPLETELY UNDER OUR CONTROL NOW!

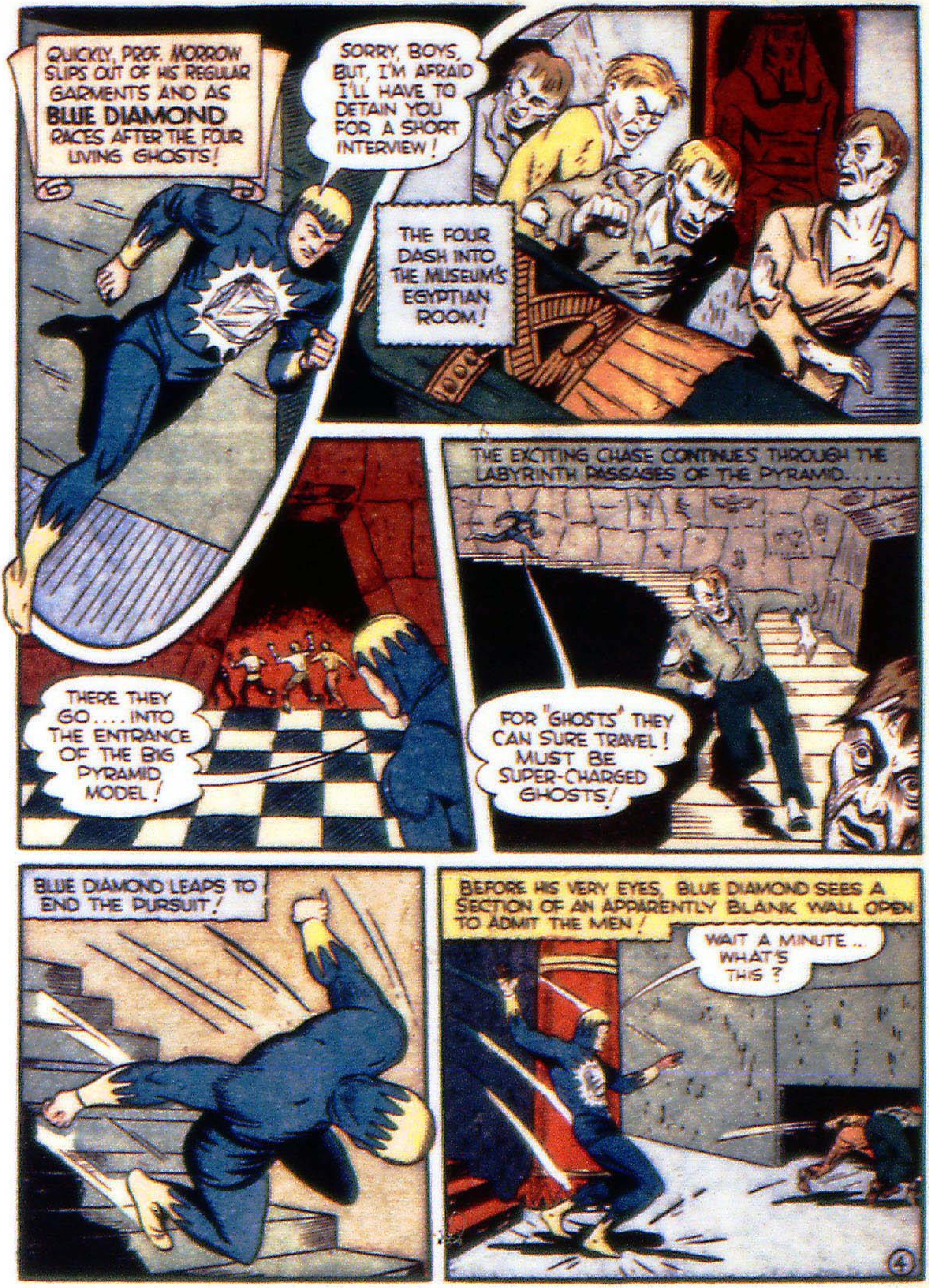

THE TIME IS RIPE FOR THE GREATEST BLITZKRIEG OF ALL ETERNITY! THE FORCES OF DEMOCRACY HAVE GONE SOFT WITH PEACE! CAPTAIN DARING WILL LEAD OUR ARMIES TO VICTORY! HEIL HITLER!
WITH PROMISES OF WEALTH, POWER AND GLORY, HITLER BRIBES MILLIONS OF MEN UNDER HIS BANNER, LAUNCHING A SELF-BLITZKRIEG AGAINST THE WORLD!
GOEBBELS STARTS A TERRIFIC PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN.
THE FORCES OF DEMOCRACY HAVE LOST 12,000 MEN -- HITLER LOST TWO MEN AND ONE LIGHT TANK.
TELECAST NEWS UNITED
CAPTAIN DARING TAKES OVER THE COMMAND OF HITLER'S ARMIES AT THE START OF THE GREATEST BLITZ IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD!
THE FIRST ARMY OF OCCUPATION WILL ESTABLISH A CAMP IN THE NORTHWESTERN TERRITORY.
THE STAGE IS SET! THE ACTION IS ABOUT TO BEGIN! DON'T MISS THE NEXT CHAPTER IN THE NEW ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN DARING IN THE VERY NEXT ISSUE OF DARING COMICS!

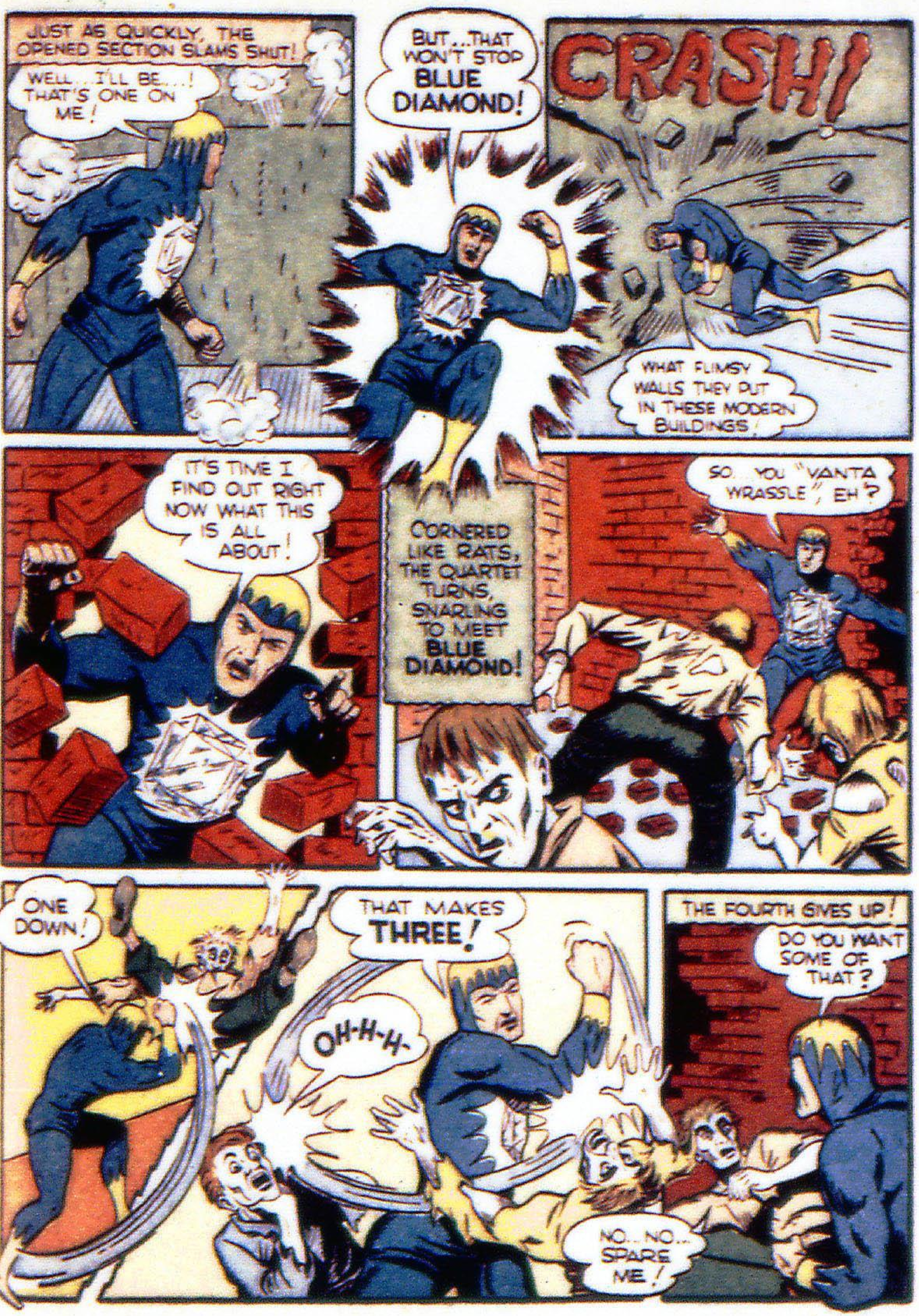

TUBBY an' TACK
by RAY HOULIHAN
DIDJA SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS LOOKIN' CHARACTERS AROUND, FUZZY?
NOT A ONE! I LOOKED ALL OVER!
EGULL-EYE DETECTIVE AGENCY
THEY MUST KNOW WE'RE ON TH' JOB AND THEY'RE HIDING!
WE GOTTA GET A CASE PRETTY SOON!
EGULL-EYE DETECTIVE AGENCY
IS THIS THE EAGLE-EYE DETECTIVE AGENCY? I HAVE A CASE FOR YOU!
OBOY! MOM, LEAD US TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME!
HI, MOM!
I LEFT A BIG JAR OF JELLY RIGHT ON THAT TABLE, WENT OUT FOR AN HOUR, AND WHEN I RETURNED- THE JAR WAS EMPTY AND A LOAF OF BREAD WAS GONE!!
THIS IS NOT IN OUR LINE- WE JUST HANDLE BANK ROBBERS AND COUNTERFEITERS!
THEY MUST BE MIGHTY SLICK CUSTOMERS! I DON'T SEE ANY CLUES!
HOW ABOUT THIS TRAIL OF JELLY! WE'LL FOLLOW IT!
YEAH! NO FINGER-PRINTS, EVEN!
WHY, THE TRAIL LEADS RIGHT INTO YOUR DETECTIVE AGENCY OFFICE IN THE GARAGE! ISN'T THAT STRANGE?
GOLLY! THE SCOUNDRELS HAD THE NERVE TO USE OUR OFFICE AS A HIDEOUT WHILE THEY DISPOSED OF TH' LOOT!
FINE DETECTIVES WE ARE! WE OUGHTA TAKE A FEW LESSONS FROM MOM!
GOLLY! I NEVER THOUGHT SHE'D FIND OUT! WE EVEN HAD OUR DISGUISES ON WHEN WE DID IT!

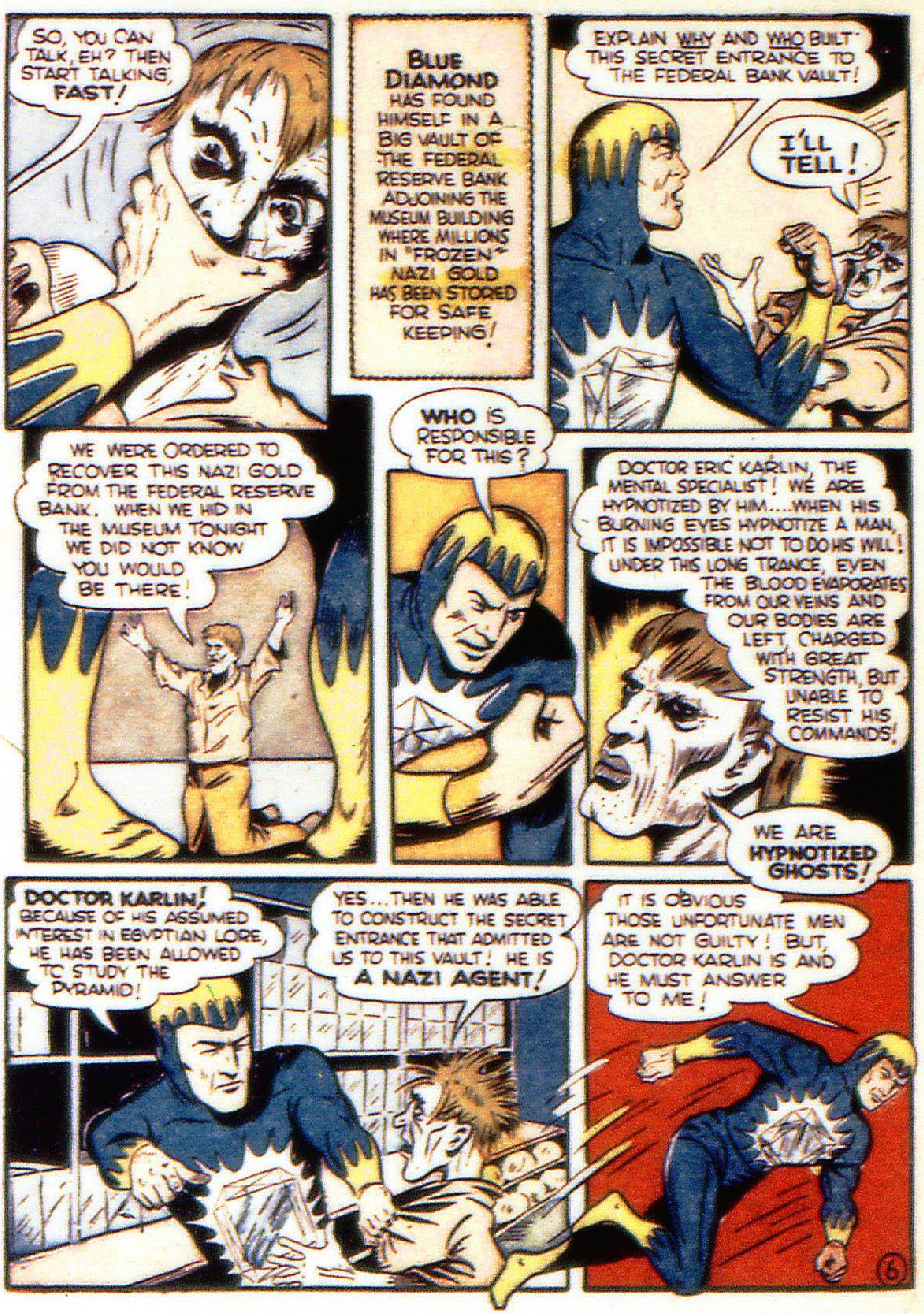

BLUE DIAMOND
and the "HYPNOTIZED GHOSTS"
the BULLET-PROOF MAN!
HELD CAPTIVE BY KARLIN, THE UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS OF THE NAZI AGENT'S HYPNOTIC POWERS ARE ORDERED TO RAID A U.S. FEDERAL RESERVE BANK!
SECRET ORDER NO. 8113-M ALL NAZI GOLD HELD IN CUSTODY BY U.S. MUST BE RECOVERED!
PROFESSOR ELTON MORROW, WHO, UNKNOWN TO HIS FRIENDS, IS THE BLUE DIAMOND, WORKS LATE ONE NIGHT IN THE ANTHROPOLOGY ROOM OF A BIG MUSEUM.....
A FEW MORE EVENINGS OF THIS AND I WILL COMPLETE THE PLASTER MODELS OF THE PRESERVED ABORIGINALS BROUGHT BACK FROM MONGOLIA BY OUR LAST EXPEDITION!
Ben Thompson

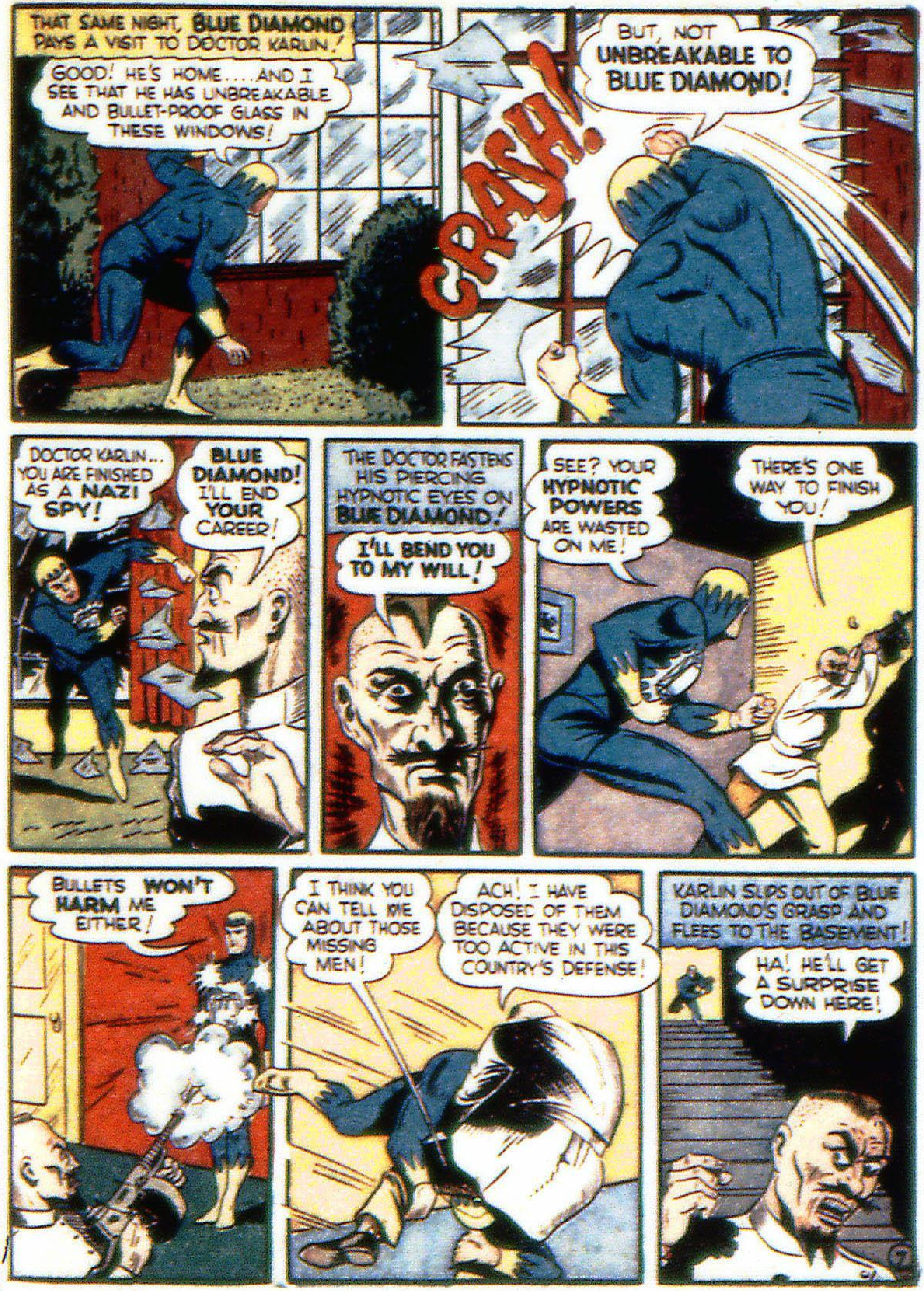

ON A LONG TABLE, DRAPED WITH WHITE SHEETS, ARE THE PRESERVED BODIES OF MONGOLIAN ABORIGINALS!
MY FRIENDS.... YOU AREN'T MUCH COMPANY FOR A PROFESSOR ON A LONELY NIGHT LIKE THIS!
WHILE WORKING, PROF. MORROW RECALLS THE STRANGE SERIES OF EVENTS WHICH LED TO THE CREATION OF HIS DUAL PERSONALITY; THAT OF A NOTED SCIENTIST AND, BLUE DIAMOND, FIERCE CHAMPION OF LAW AND ORDER AND DREADED ENEMY OF CRIME AND SUBVERSIVE AGENTS!
IT BEGAN WITH THE FINDING OF A GREAT BLUE DIAMOND ON AN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION!
THIS IS THE LARGEST DIAMOND EVER KNOWN TO MANKIND!
IT WILL BE A SENSATION WHEN WE GET BACK HOME!
BUT, ON THE RETURN TO AMERICA, THE EXPEDITION'S BOAT IS TORPEDOED AND SUNK BY A NAZI SUBMARINE!
BOOM!
IN THE EXPLOSION, THE PRICELESS DIAMOND IS SHATTERED TO BITS AND HUNDREDS OF SMALL PARTICLES ARE LODGED IN THE ALMOST LIFELESS BODY OF PROF. MORROW, FLOATING ON A PIECE OF WRECKAGE!
RESCUED BY A BRITISH DESTROYER, HE RECOVERS TO MAKE A DISCOVERY.....
DOCTOR...MY BODY....... IT'S LIKE STEEL!
YES...WE COULDN'T RISK REMOVING THE DIAMOND PARTICLES AND IN SOME PHENOMENAL WAY THEY HAVE GIVEN YOUR BODY THE HARDNESS OF A DIAMOND!
THUS, BECAUSE OF THE SHEER HARDNESS OF HIS BODY, HE CAN CRASH THROUGH STONE WALLS, CRACK THE HARDEST STEEL AND STOP BULLETS WITHOUT HARM TO HIMSELF, PROFESSOR MORROW BECOMES THE BLUE DIAMOND, HUNTER AND FOE OF LAWLESSNESS!
IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, POLICE ARE BAFFLED BY THE COMPLETE DISAPPEARANCE OF MANY PROMINENT CITIZENS!
I TELL YOU, CHIEF... THE LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE OF THIS CITY ARE LIVING IN TERROR! NO ONE KNOWS WHO WILL GO NEXT!
YES... AND EVERY ONE OF THEM VANISHED WITHOUT A SINGLE TRACE... NOT A CLUE... NOTHING WE CAN WORK ON!

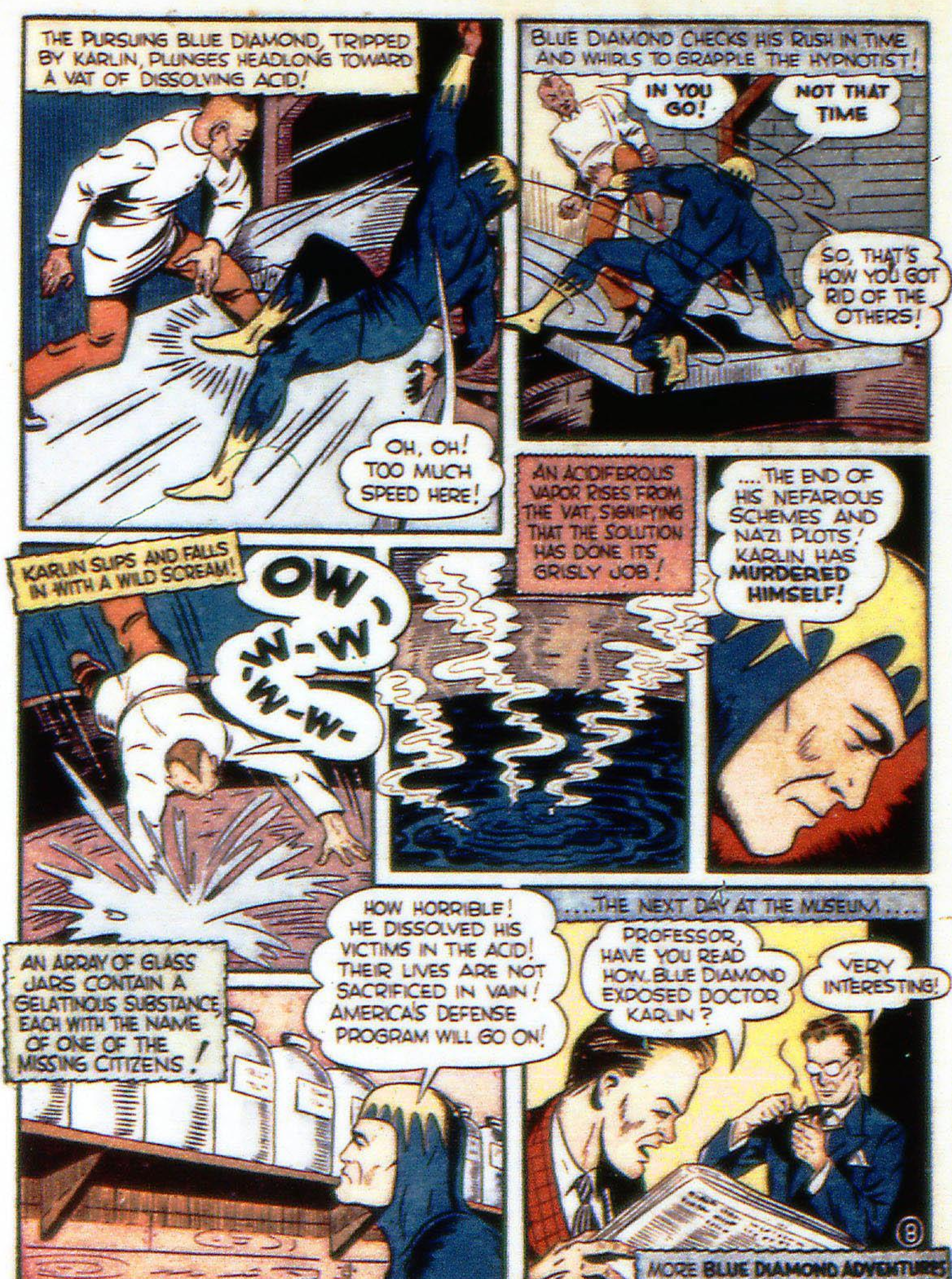

EVEN AT THAT MOMENT, NEWSBOYS SHOUT THAT TWO MORE MEN HAVE DROPPED FROM SIGHT!
EXTRA-- EXTRA---- THE UNSEEN TERROR CLAIMS TWO MORE VICTIMS!
WHO'LL BE THE NEXT?
EACH OF THEM WAS ACTIVE IN NATIONAL DEFENSE WORK!
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE IS FIGHTING UNDERGROUND AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S DEFENSE EFFORTS!
PROF. MORROW HEARS THE NEWS OVER THE RADIO AS HE WORKS...
...POLICE ARE BAFFLED...ROUND-UP OF UNDERWORLD SUSPECTS YIELDS NO INFORMATION.....
A JOB FOR BLUE DIAMOND! BUT, WHERE TO START?
SUDDENLY THERE IS A NOISE FROM THE SHEET-COVERED TABLE.........
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? DON'T TELL ME THE ABORIGINALS ARE WAKING UP!
FOUR FIGURES RISE-UP INSIDE THE SHEETS!
TOSSING THEIR WHITE DRAPES ASIDE, FOUR GHOSTLIKE, TATTERED MEN WITH GHASTLY SUNKEN EYES AND HOLLOW CHEEKS LEAP ACROSS THE TABLE!
THE PROFESSOR SWINGS HIS TROWEL AT THE NEAREST ATTACKER!
SAY...THAT RIPPED A GASH ACROSS HIS CHIN...BUT, NO BLOOD! HOW COME?
THE FOUR ARE NO MATCH FOR THEIR INTENDED VICTIM, AND THEY FLEE IN GREAT LEAPS THROUGH THE MUSEUM!
EE-E-E-E-E-E
3


QUICKLY, PROF. MORROW SLIPS OUT OF HIS REGULAR GARMENTS AND AS **BLUE DIAMOND** RACES AFTER THE FOUR LIVING GHOSTS!
SORRY, BOYS, BUT, I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO DETAIN YOU FOR A SHORT INTERVIEW!
THE FOUR DASH INTO THE MUSEUM'S EGYPTIAN ROOM!
THERE THEY GO.... INTO THE ENTRANCE OF THE BIG PYRAMID MODEL!
THE EXCITING CHASE CONTINUES THROUGH THE LABYRINTH PASSAGES OF THE PYRAMID......
FOR "GHOSTS" THEY CAN SURE TRAVEL! MUST BE SUPER-CHARGED GHOSTS!
BLUE DIAMOND LEAPS TO END THE PURSUIT!
BEFORE HIS VERY EYES, BLUE DIAMOND SEES A SECTION OF AN APPARENTLY BLANK WALL OPEN TO ADMIT THE MEN!
WAIT A MINUTE... WHAT'S THIS?


JUST AS QUICKLY, THE OPENED SECTION SLAMS SHUT!
WELL... I'LL BE...! THAT'S ONE ON ME!
BUT...THAT WON'T STOP **BLUE DIAMOND!**
CRASH!
WHAT FLIMSY WALLS THEY PUT IN THESE MODERN BUILDINGS!
IT'S TIME I FIND OUT RIGHT NOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!
CORNERED LIKE RATS, THE QUARTET TURNS, SNARLING TO MEET **BLUE DIAMOND!**
SO...YOU "VANTA WRASSLE", EH?
ONE DOWN!
THAT MAKES **THREE!**
OH-H-H-
THE FOURTH GIVES UP!
DO YOU WANT SOME OF THAT?
NO...NO... SPARE ME!


SO, YOU CAN TALK, EH? THEN START TALKING, **FAST**!
**BLUE DIAMOND** HAS FOUND HIMSELF IN A BIG VAULT OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK ADJOINING THE MUSEUM BUILDING WHERE MILLIONS IN "FROZEN" NAZI GOLD HAS BEEN STORED FOR SAFE KEEPING!
EXPLAIN WHY AND WHO BUILT THIS SECRET ENTRANCE TO THE FEDERAL BANK VAULT!
I'LL TELL!
WE WERE ORDERED TO RECOVER THIS NAZI GOLD FROM THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK. WHEN WE HID IN THE MUSEUM TONIGHT WE DID NOT KNOW YOU WOULD BE THERE!
**WHO** IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?
DOCTOR ERIC KARLIN, THE MENTAL SPECIALIST! WE ARE HYPNOTIZED BY HIM....WHEN HIS BURNING EYES HYPNOTIZE A MAN, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO DO HIS WILL! UNDER THIS LONG TRANCE, EVEN THE BLOOD EVAPORATES FROM OUR VEINS AND OUR BODIES ARE LEFT, CHARGED WITH GREAT STRENGTH, BUT UNABLE TO RESIST HIS COMMANDS!
WE ARE **HYPNOTIZED GHOSTS**!
**DOCTOR KARLIN!** BECAUSE OF HIS ASSUMED INTEREST IN EGYPTIAN LORE, HE HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO STUDY THE PYRAMID!
YES...THEN HE WAS ABLE TO CONSTRUCT THE SECRET ENTRANCE THAT ADMITTED US TO THIS VAULT! HE IS **A NAZI AGENT**!
IT IS OBVIOUS THOSE UNFORTUNATE MEN ARE NOT GUILTY! BUT, DOCTOR KARLIN IS AND HE MUST ANSWER TO ME!


THAT SAME NIGHT, BLUE DIAMOND PAYS A VISIT TO DOCTOR KARLIN!
GOOD! HE'S HOME.... AND I SEE THAT HE HAS UNBREAKABLE AND BULLET-PROOF GLASS IN THESE WINDOWS!
CRASH!
BUT, NOT UNBREAKABLE TO BLUE DIAMOND!
DOCTOR KARLIN... YOU ARE FINISHED AS A NAZI SPY!
BLUE DIAMOND! I'LL END YOUR CAREER!
THE DOCTOR FASTENS HIS PIERCING HYPNOTIC EYES ON BLUE DIAMOND!
I'LL BEND YOU TO MY WILL!
SEE? YOUR HYPNOTIC POWERS ARE WASTED ON ME!
THERE'S ONE WAY TO FINISH YOU!
BULLETS WON'T HARM ME EITHER!
I THINK YOU CAN TELL ME ABOUT THOSE MISSING MEN!
ACH! I HAVE DISPOSED OF THEM BECAUSE THEY WERE TOO ACTIVE IN THIS COUNTRY'S DEFENSE!
KARLIN SLIPS OUT OF BLUE DIAMOND'S GRASP AND FLEES TO THE BASEMENT!
HA! HE'LL GET A SURPRISE DOWN HERE!


THE PURSUING BLUE DIAMOND, TRIPPED BY KARLIN, PLUNGES HEADLONG TOWARD A VAT OF DISSOLVING ACID!
OH, OH! TOO MUCH SPEED HERE!
BLUE DIAMOND CHECKS HIS RUSH IN TIME AND WHIRLS TO GRAPPLE THE HYPNOTIST!
IN YOU GO!
NOT THAT TIME
SO, THAT'S HOW YOU GOT RID OF THE OTHERS!
KARLIN SLIPS AND FALLS IN WITH A WILD SCREAM!
OW-W-W-W-W-W-
AN ACIDIFEROUS VAPOR RISES FROM THE VAT, SIGNIFYING THAT THE SOLUTION HAS DONE ITS GRISLY JOB!
....THE END OF HIS NEFARIOUS SCHEMES AND NAZI PLOTS! KARLIN HAS MURDERED HIMSELF!
AN ARRAY OF GLASS JARS CONTAIN A GELATINOUS SUBSTANCE, EACH WITH THE NAME OF ONE OF THE MISSING CITIZENS!
HOW HORRIBLE! HE DISSOLVED HIS VICTIMS IN THE ACID! THEIR LIVES ARE NOT SACRIFICED IN VAIN! AMERICA'S DEFENSE PROGRAM WILL GO ON!
....THE NEXT DAY AT THE MUSEUM....
PROFESSOR, HAVE YOU READ HOW BLUE DIAMOND EXPOSED DOCTOR KARLIN?
VERY INTERESTING!
8
MORE BLUE DIAMOND ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT DARING COMICS!

# Battle of the GIANTS!

# THE HUMAN TORCH No. 5

**BATTLES THE SUB-MARINER**
IN A FIGHT TO THE FINISH!!!

**IN** A WORLD GONE MAD, THE SUB-MARINER RUNS AMOK AND TRIES TO DESTROY ALL MANKIND!

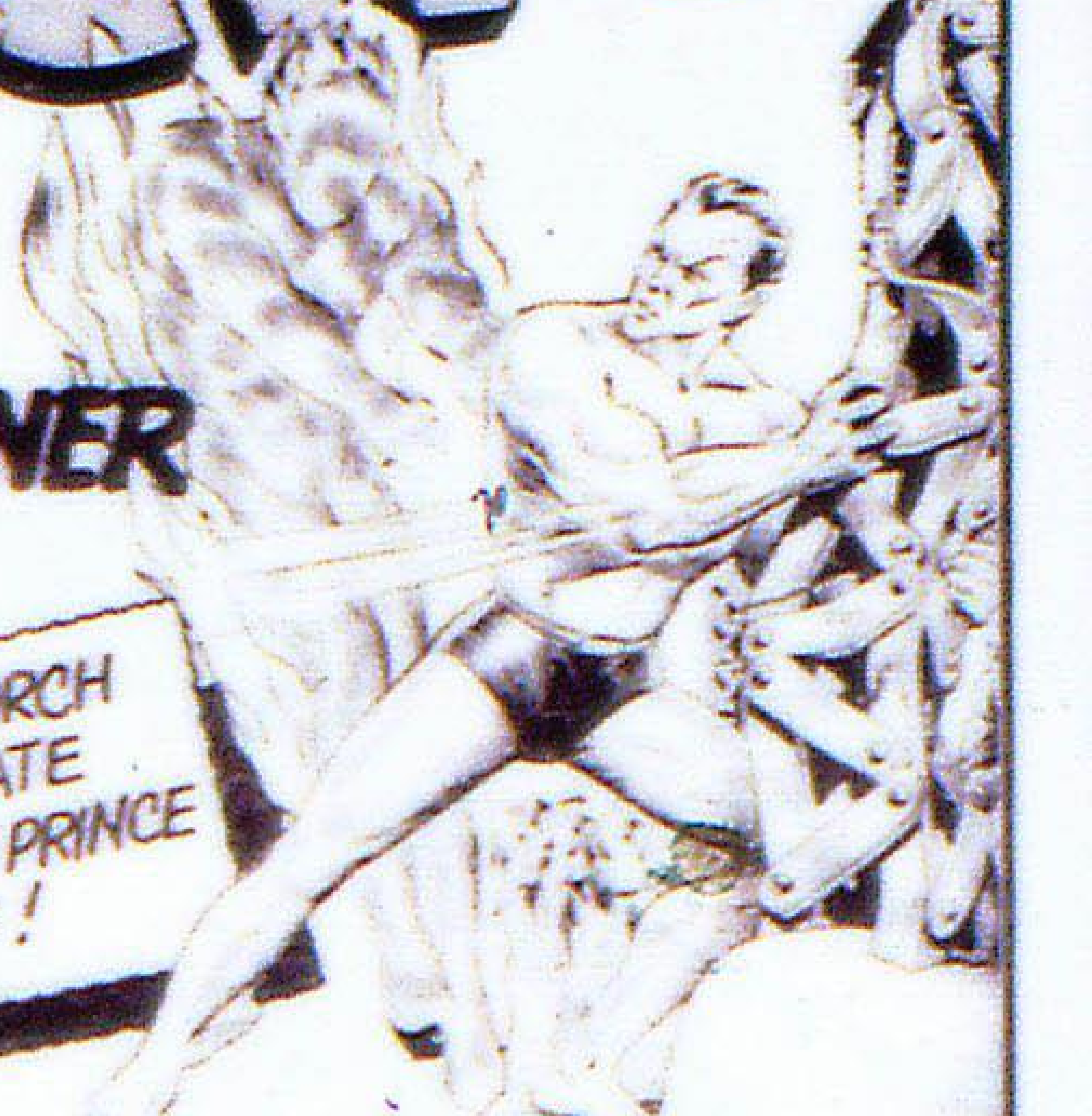
**BUT** THE HUMAN TORCH VOWS THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION OF PRINCE NAMOR HIMSELF!

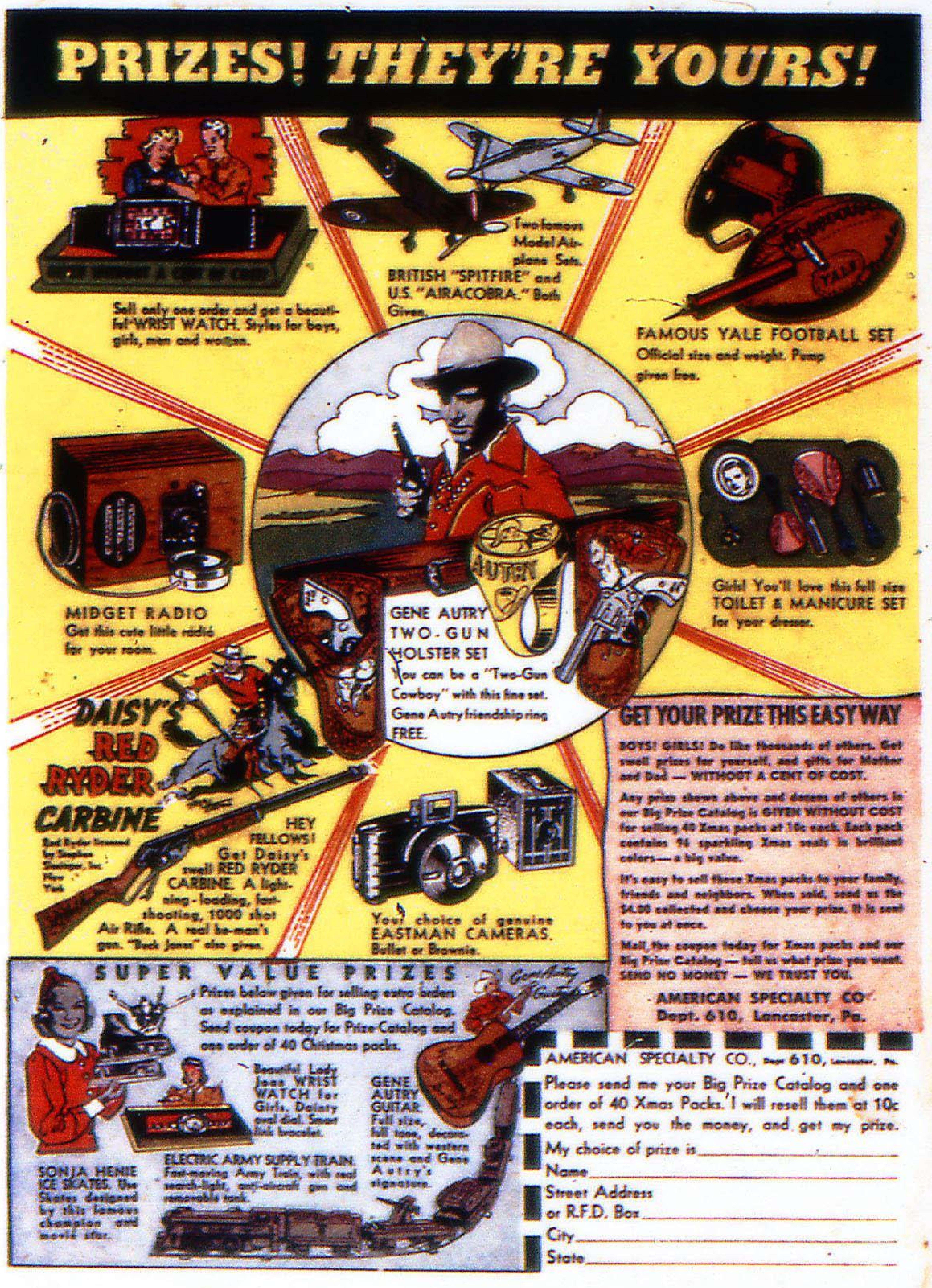
*Thrill* TO UNDERSEA BATTLES THAT WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY!

*Thrill* TO THE HUMAN TORCH FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE AND THE EXISTENCE OF DEMOCRACY AGAINST THE SUB-MARINER'S MACHINE OF DOOM!

*Thrill* TO A FULL 60 PAGES OF SPINE-TINGLING ADVENTURES IN THIS NEW, FAST-MOVING STORY OF TWO MIGHTY MIRACLES OF ACTION!

**DON'T MISS THIS BATTLE OF THE CENTURY!!!**





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## GET YOUR PRIZE THIS EASY WAY

BOYS! GIRLS! Do like thousands of others. Get swell prizes for yourself, and gifts for Mother and Dad — WITHOUT A CENT OF COST.

Any prize shown above and dozens of others in our Big Prize Catalog is GIVEN WITHOUT COST for selling 40 Xmas packs at 10c each. Each pack contains 96 sparkling Xmas seals in brilliant colors— a big value.

It's easy to sell these Xmas packs to your family, friends and neighbors. When sold, send us the $4.00 collected and choose your prize. It is sent to you at once.

Mail the coupon today for Xmas packs and our Big Prize Catalog — tell us what prize you want. SEND NO MONEY — WE TRUST YOU.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
Dept. 610, Lancaster, Pa.

## SUPER VALUE PRIZES

Prizes below given for selling extra orders as explained in our Big Prize Catalog. Send coupon today for Prize Catalog and one order of 40 Christmas packs.

Beautiful Lady Jean WRIST WATCH for Girls. Dainty oval dial. Smart link bracelet.

**GENE AUTRY GUITAR.** Full size, full tone, decorated with western scene and Gene Autry's signature.

**SONJA HENIE ICE SKATES.** The Skates designed by this famous champion and movie star.

**ELECTRIC ARMY SUPPLY TRAIN.** Fast-moving Army Train, with real search-light, anti-aircraft gun and removable tank.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 610, Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Catalog and one order of 40 Xmas Packs. I will resell them at 10c each, send you the money, and get my prize.

My choice of prize is____________________

Name____________________

Street Address
or R.F.D. Box____________________

City____________________

State____________________